DROGUNE

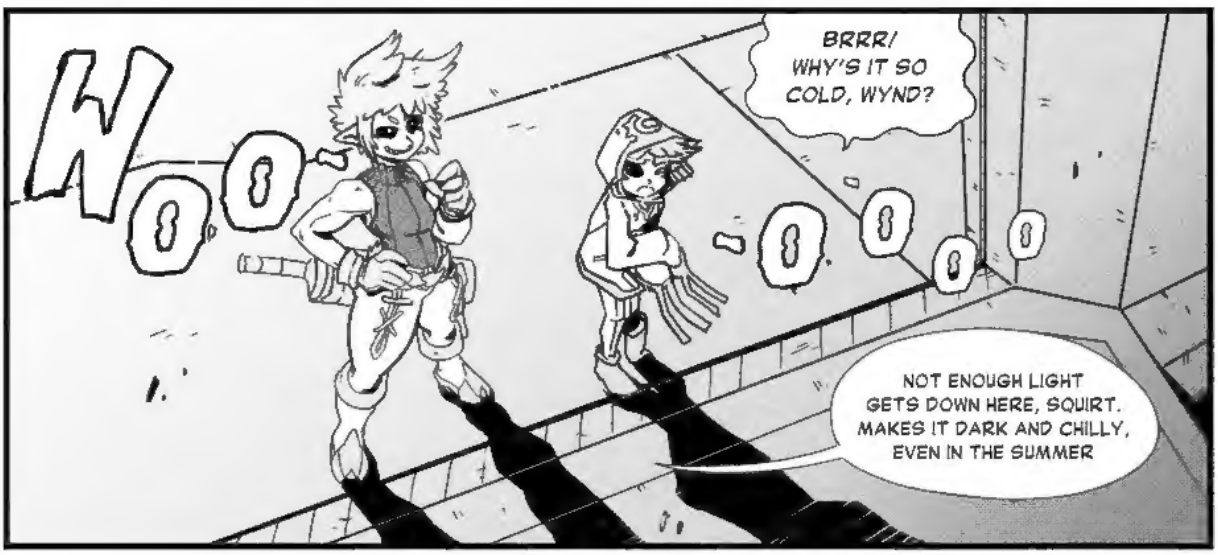
BOOK 1 • WORKING STIFFS

DROGUNE

BOOK I

AJEHIME
-THE UNDERSTORY-

ALL RIPE FER THE PICKIN'
I'VE GOT THE FORTUNE HOLDIN' STEADY. Y'CAN START PREPPIN' FER THE DIVE.
BE RIGHT DOWN!

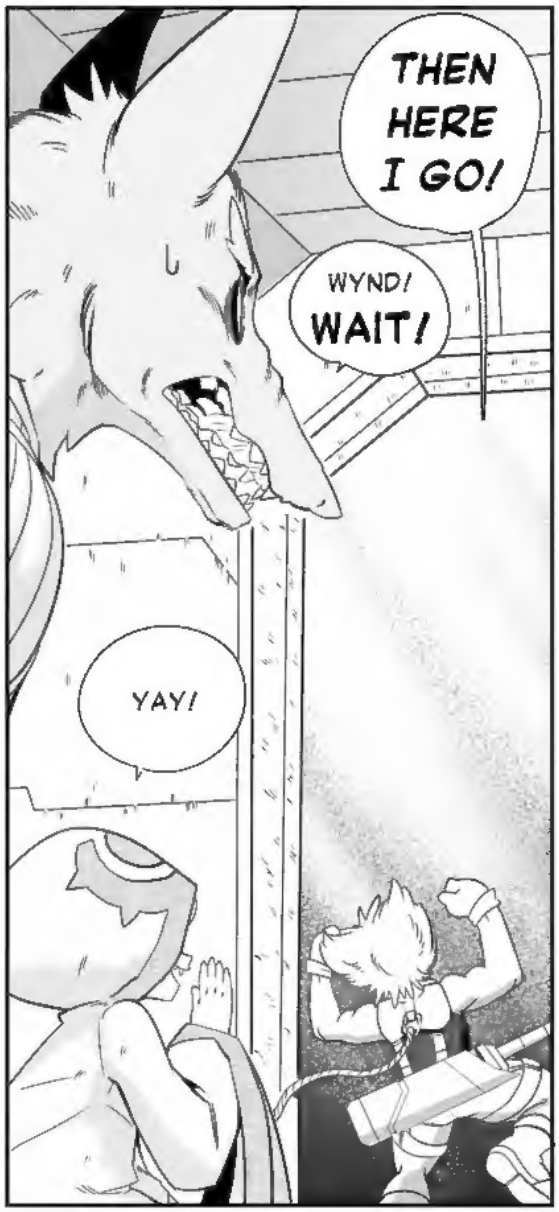

WOOOOOOOOO
BRRR! WHY'S IT SO COLD, WYND?
NOT ENOUGH LIGHT GETS DOWN HERE, SQUIRT. MAKES IT DARK AND CHILLY, EVEN IN THE SUMMER

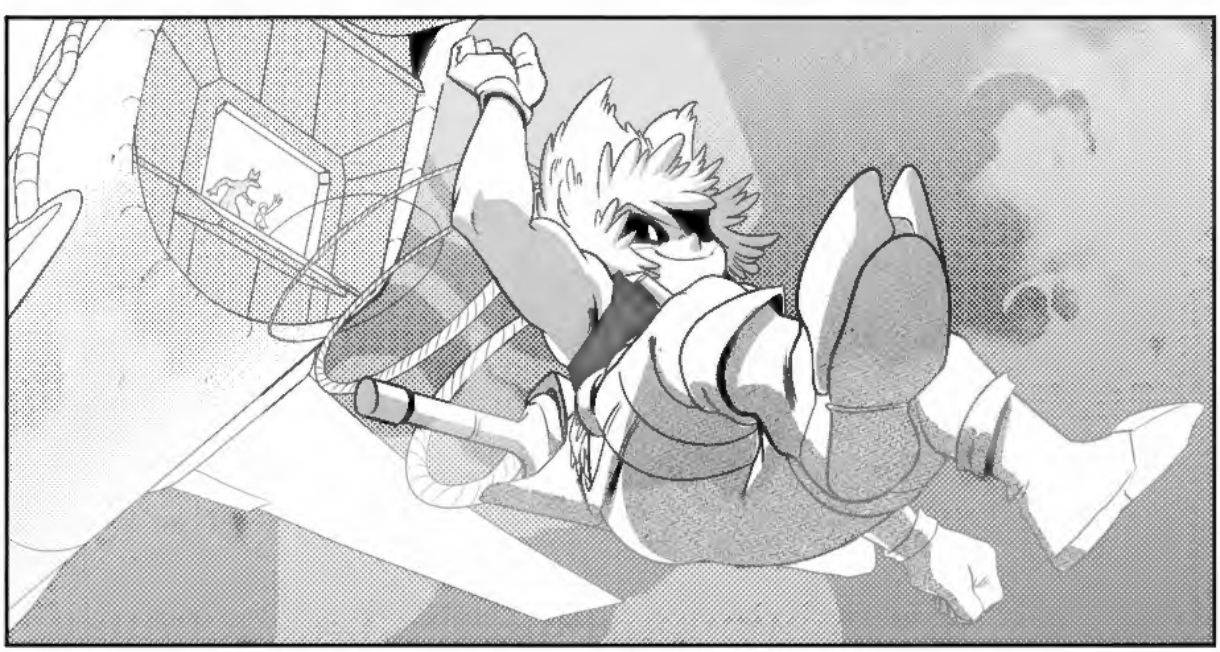
JUST THE WAY MONSTERS LIKE IT!!!
EEEK!!! QUIT IT!

EVERYTHING IN ORDER?
YUP! GEAR'S ALL GOOD.
SALVAGE FORMS?
SHOULD BE LEGIT...

JOBBUN.
DON'T GET YER TAIL IN A KNOT, FOREN. I KNOW A GUY. NEVER LET ME DOWN BEFORE.

YAWN.
YOU GOT ME ALL HOOKED UP, LISIE?
UMM... YEAH, I THINK SO.
COOL.


THEN HERE I GO!
WYND! WAIT!
YAY!



WHUNK
AND SHE NAILS THE DISMOUNT!
FORRRREN!
YOU'RE AN AJE!
CLIMB FASTER!

JUST FIND THE FUEL LINE, PLEASE.
THIS IS A GALAXANT TRANSPORT, RIGHT?

FUEL LINE SHOULD BE--
-HERE!

EXCELLENT! AND ONE DAY YOU'LL EVEN BE ABLE TO READ WHAT IT SAYS!
BITE ME.

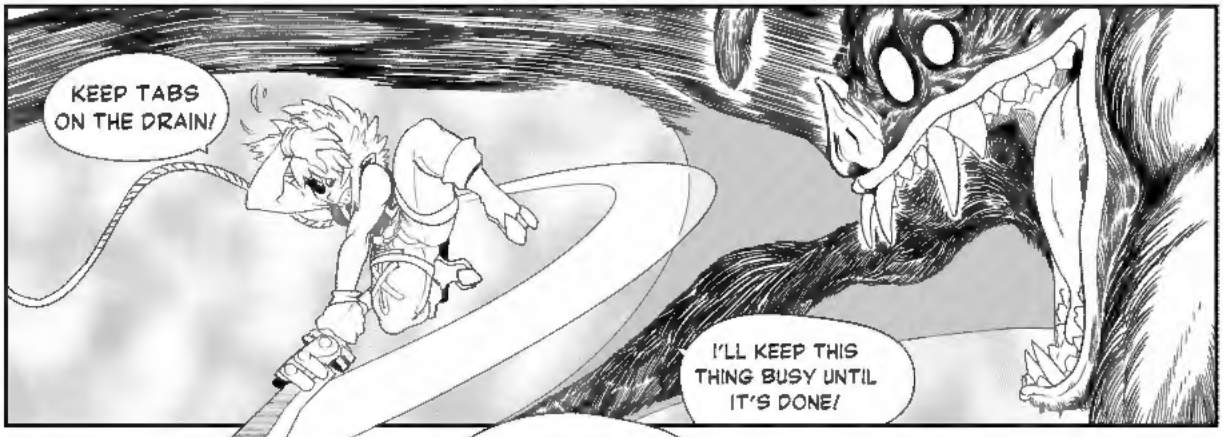
HOSE SECURED. START THE MANA DRAIN, JOBBUN.
COPY THAT!
AAAAAND, BORED NOW.
BORING IS GOOD.
BORING IS BORING.
WE COULD USE AN EASY DIVE FOR ONCE.
WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE?
IN THE SAME SHROUD AS MY OPTIMISM AND NAIVETY.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH WANTING A SIMPLE PAYOUT?
NOTHING YOU FUSSY THING.
QUIT IT!
PAFF
HOLD ON...
I THOUGHT I HEARD--

SHRREEK

CHIRONID! RUN!

YOU RUN. IT'S MINE!
YAAAAAAH!
WYND- NO!

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF-NGH!
WE NEED A PAYOUT!

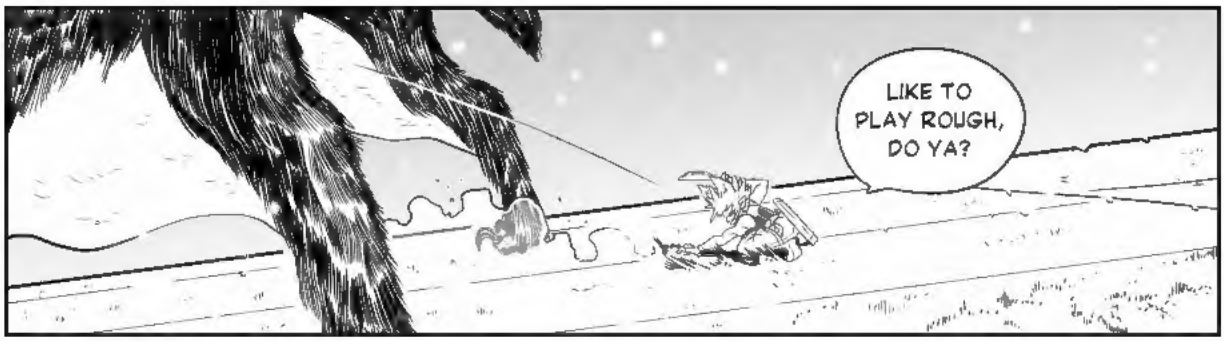

KEEP TABS ON THE DRAIN!
I'LL KEEP THIS THING BUSY UNTIL IT'S DONE!

JOBBUN! WYND DECIDED TO FIGHT A VERY LARGE, VERY ANGRY CHIRONID!
OF COURSE SHE DID.
HOW LONG UNTIL THE BATTERIES ARE DRAINED?

WE'RE ABOUT HALF WAY. GONNA NEED A FEW MINUTES.
IS WYND GONNA BE ALRIGHT?

AW, DON'T YA WORRY NONE.
YER BIG SIS DOES THIS SORTA THING ALL THE TIME.

WHAM


LIKE TO PLAY ROUGH, DO YA?

FINE!
LET'S PLAY ROUGH!

THROW ME A WAND SO I CAN SUPPORT WYND!
SHREEEK

BUSY! LISIE, FETCH YER UNCLE FOREN A WAND, SWEETIE!
TURN
TURN
M-ME?!

YOU WANTED TO HELP OUT, RIGHT? NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME!
GO TO THE BIG CHEST ON THE PORT SIDE OF THE BAY.
IS THAT LEFT OR RIGHT?
LEFT, DEAR.
...MY LEFT? LOOKING AT THE FRONT OR THE BACK?
THE WALL BEHIND UNCLE JOBBUN.
OKAY! THE ONE WITH THE NUMBERS?
YES! NOW ENTER 6-7-3-4
SIX...
YOU SAID IT TOO FAST!
SIX.
SEVEN.
THREE.
FOUR.
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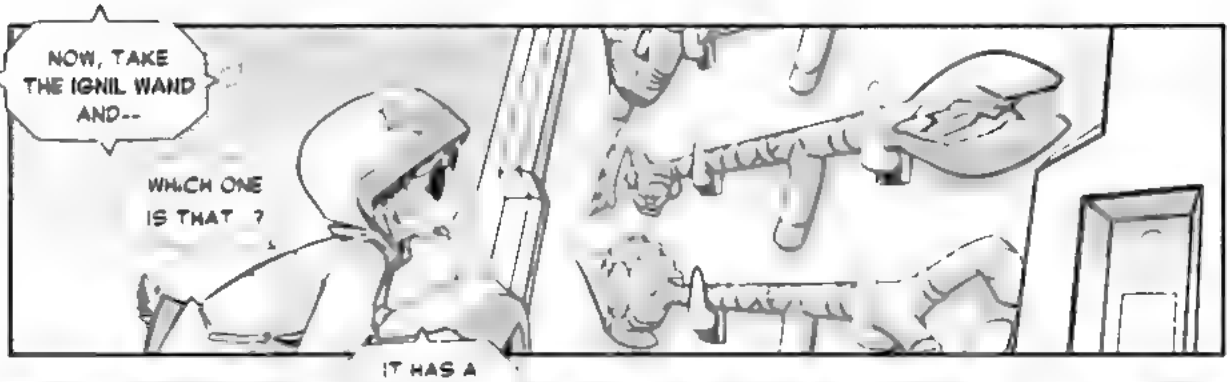
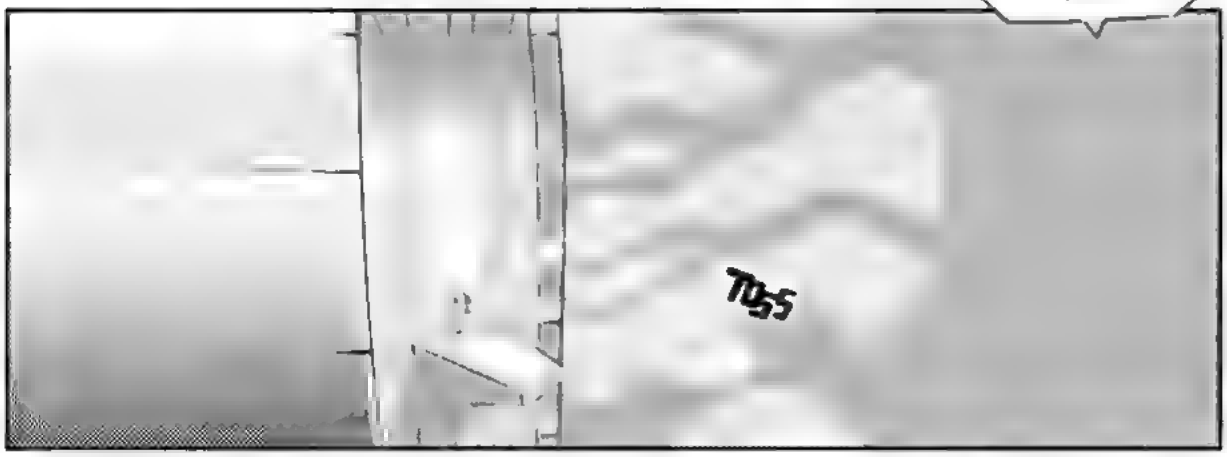
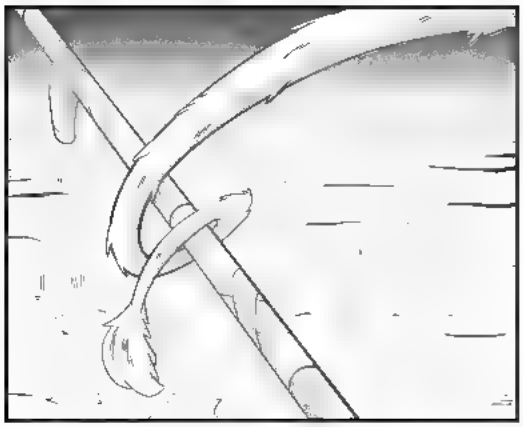

NOW, TAKE THE IGNIL WAND AND--
WHICH ONE IS THAT ?

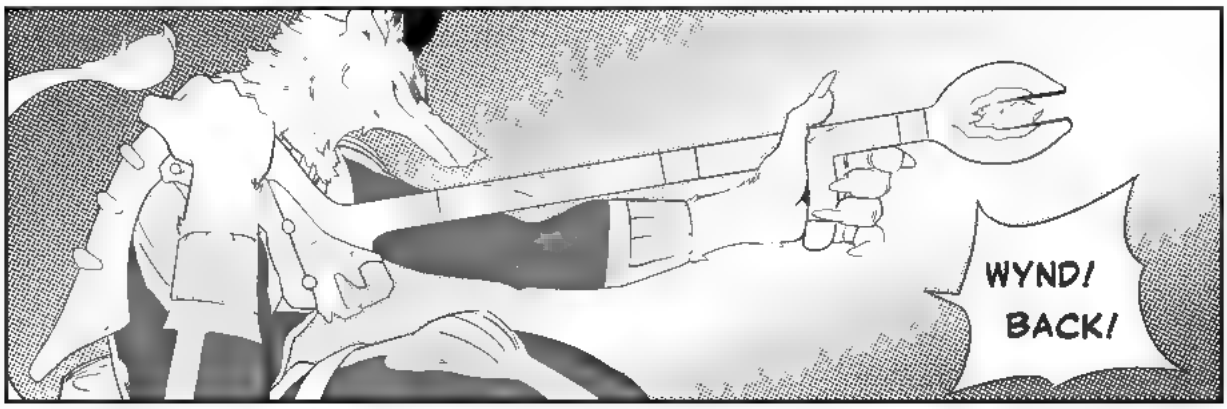
IT HAS A LITTLE FLAME SYMBOL
I GOT IT/ I GOT IT/
VERY GOOD/ NOW TOSS IT OUT THE BAY DOOR TO ME/


TOSS

KAK
KAK
KAK



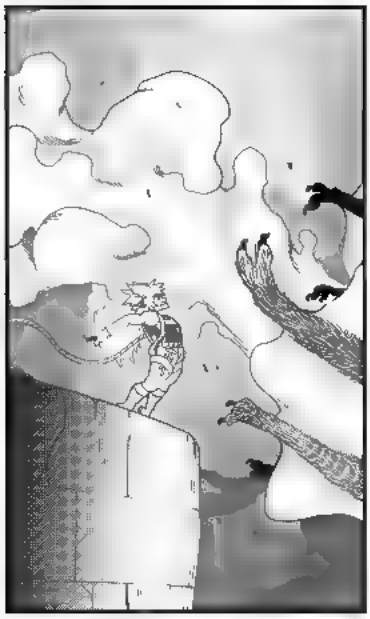
NOBODY SAW THAT. NEVER HAPPENED.

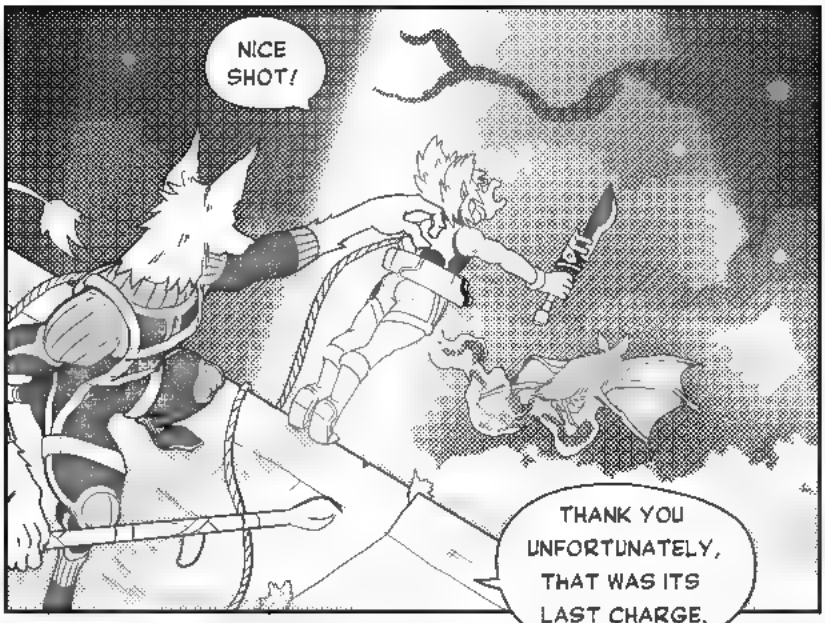

WYND! BACK!

ABOUT TIME!

FWOOMP
SHKREEEK

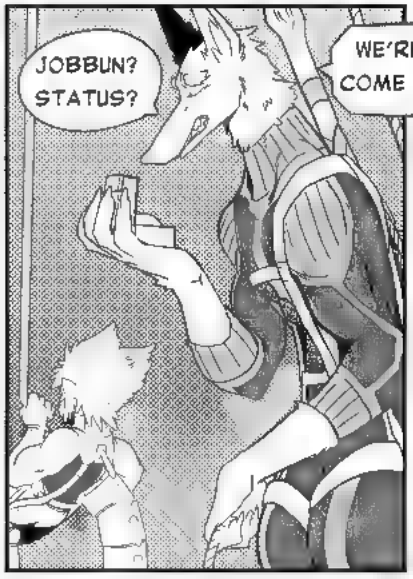
WHUD

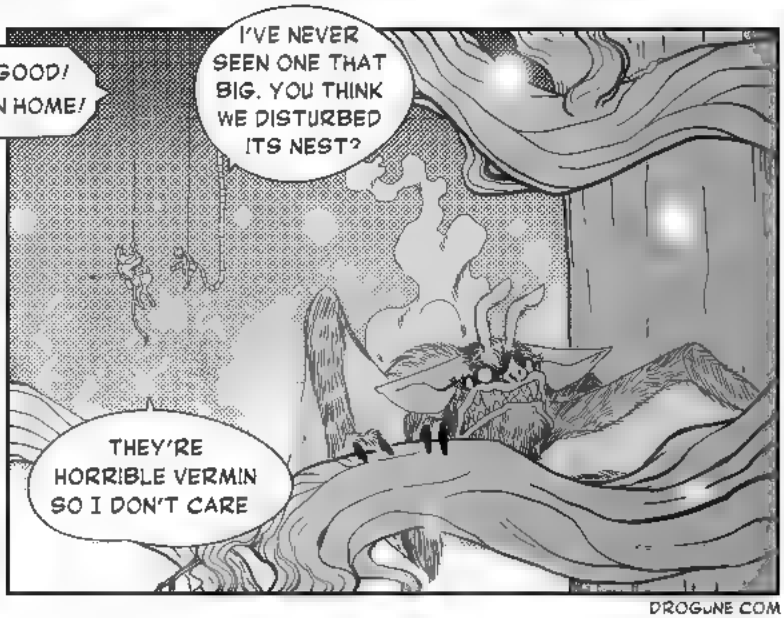



NICE SHOT!
THANK YOU UNFORTUNATELY, THAT WAS ITS LAST CHARGE.

SO? I COULD CHARGE AND SHOOT IT MYSELF
YES, BUT NO ONE ELSE COULD

I'D RATHER NOT SORT THROUGH A BUNCH OF DUD STICKS IN A PINCH-- AGAIN.
PFFT, WE CAME OUT FINE

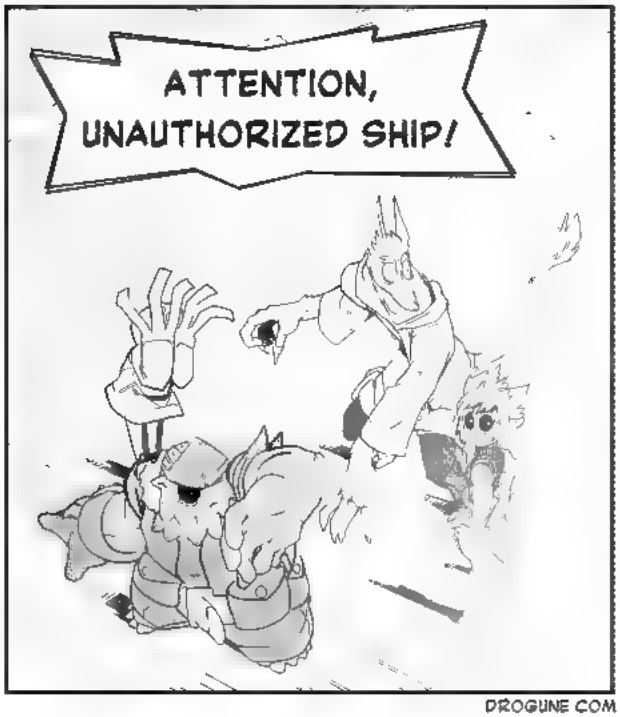

JOBBUN? STATUS?
WE'RE GOOD! COME ON HOME!


I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE THAT BIG. YOU THINK WE DISTURBED ITS NEST?
THEY'RE HORRIBLE VERMIN SO I DON'T CARE

YOU'RE HURT!
NAW, IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN SOME CREEPY-CRAWLY TO MESS ME UP.

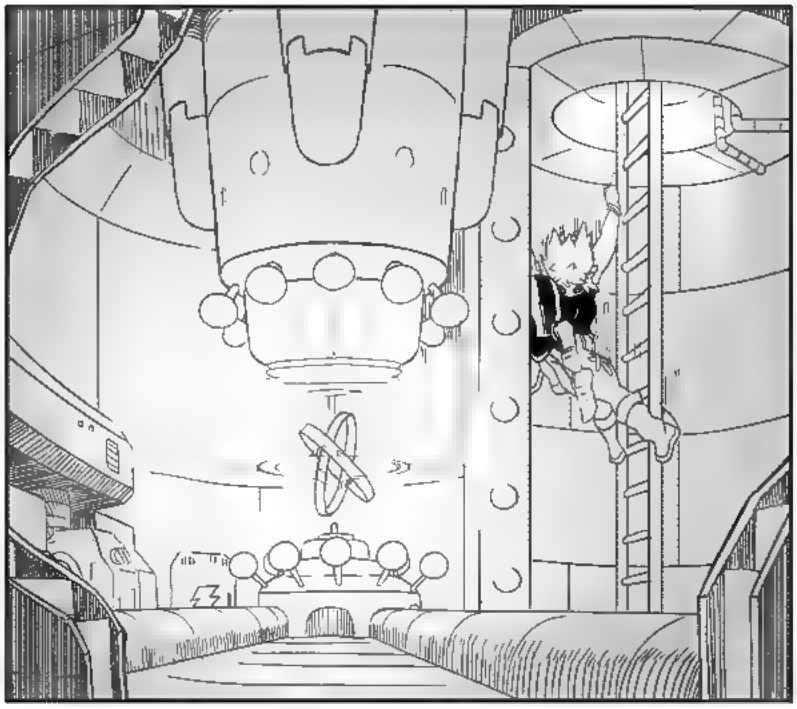
HOW'D WE DO?
WE'RE FULL UP!
I'LL LINE UP OUR USUAL BUYERS AND WE'LL BE SITTING PRETTY FOR A WHILE.

NICE WORK DOWN THERE, FLEABAG.
LIKEWISE IT'S NICE TO KNOW YOU'RE GOOD FOR SOMETHING


ATTENTION, UNAUTHORIZED SHIP!

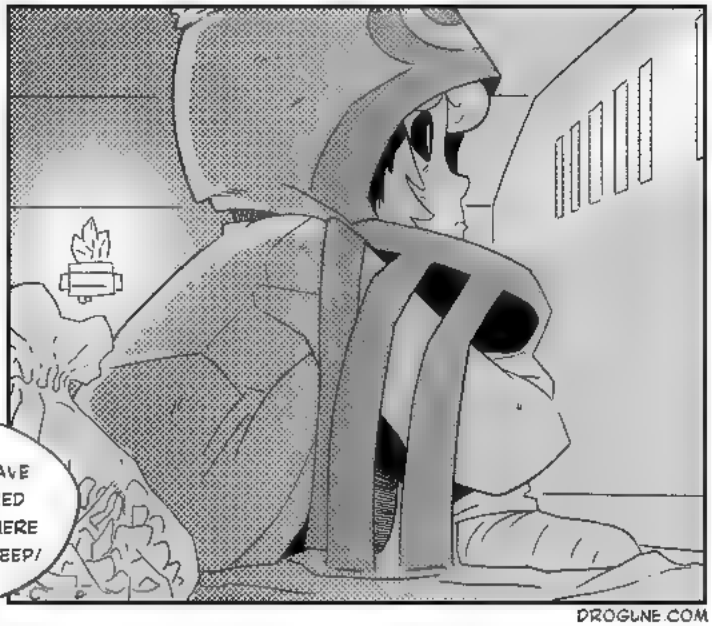
IN THE NAME OF SIR VERDIS OF GALAXANT YOU ARE TO REMAIN WHERE YOU ARE!
PREPARE TO BE BOARDED.
PISS

JOBBUN! PAPERS!
WYND! DISGUISE!
RIGHT! OKAY!
HIDING LISIE FIRST!



IN YOU GO SQUIRT! JUST LIKE WE PRACTICED!
OKAY!

WYND! I'M SCARED!
MWA!
DON'T BE! THE THREE OF US HAVE DONE THIS A HUNDRED T MES! JUST STAY HERE AND DON'T MAKE A PEEP!



WYND!
EYES!
TAIL!
PHEW
I AM TRENZ OF BOUGH'S BEND, SQUIRE IN SERVICE OF SIR VERDIS.
WHO IS THE CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP?
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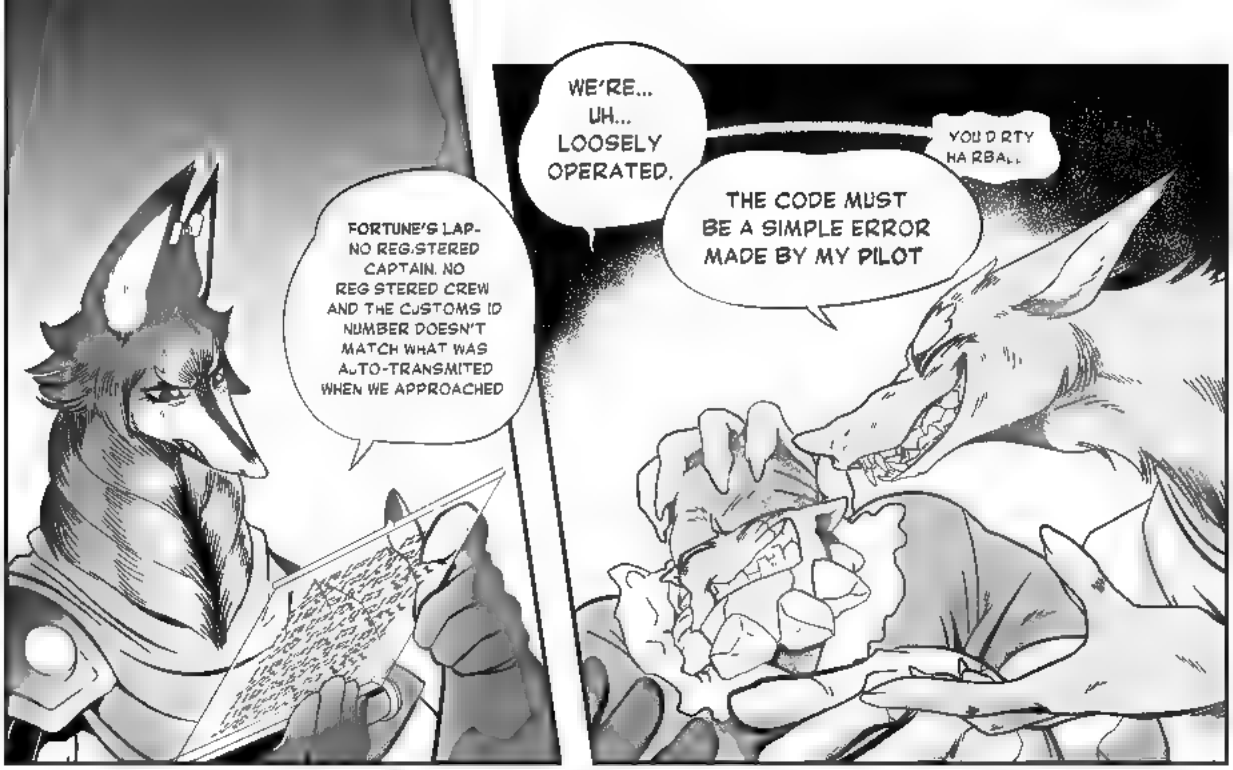
DROGJINE COM


FORTUNE'S LAP- NO REGISTERED CAPTAIN. NO REGISTERED CREW AND THE CUSTOMS ID NUMBER DOESN'T MATCH WHAT WAS AUTO-TRANSMITED WHEN WE APPROACHED
WE'RE... UH... LOOSELY OPERATED.
THE CODE MUST BE A SIMPLE ERROR MADE BY MY PILOT

ENOUGH.
YOU WERE SCAVENGING FROM A CRASHED GALAXANT TRANSPORT
WE WERE SALVAGING MANA ON A SACTIONED DIVE.
HERE'S THE PAPERS ALL NEAT N' TIDY

THIS IS A FISHING PERMIT FOR NURMINHIME.
THE WORD "FISH" IS CROSSED OUT AND REPLACED WITH "MANA."
SNAP!

YOU KNOW A GUY, HMMM?

OH, I KNOW A GUY. AND I'M GONNA KILL 'EM!
KRAK

KICK
ARREST THEM.

WE'LL START WITH YOU. NAME?
WYND
HUME, FEMALE, YOUNG ADULT. GREEN HAIR AND YELLOW... DISPEL THE GLAMOUR ON YOUR EYES.
NO-CAN-DO. IT'S PERMANENT. GOTTA LOOK MY BEST, Y'KNOW.
LEER...

GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.
NOTE: EYES ARE DISFIGURED

DROF, GRANITE COMPLEXION, HEFTY BUILD.
NAME?
JOBBUN.

UHH... WHAT DO I PUT DOWN FOR...?
JUST PUT "DROF" AGAIN, THEY'LL UNDERSTAND!
I PAID GOOD MONEY FOR THOSE PAPERS AND .. RRRGH!

AJE, MALE, RUDDY COLORATION NAME?
PINCH
LITOR OF WHITE LEAF. YOU SAID YOU WERE FROM BOUGH'S BEND?
WHAT OF IT?

OH, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY- WE ALL COME FROM DIFFERENT TREES, BUT WE'RE ALL FROM THE SAME FOREST

.. I DON'T CARE WHERE YOU'RE FROM PIRATE.

EXCUSE ME, SQUIRE, BUT WE ARE NOT PIRATES.
WE ARE MANA HUNTERS!

AN ADMISSION OF GUILT?
A DISTINCTION
PIRATES MURDER AND ROB
MANA HUNTERS RECOVER AND REDISTRIBUTE MANA
. FOR A REASONABLE FEE.

"A REASONABLE FEE"

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE IN WHITE LEAF?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE..
I'LL SAVE YOU A TRIP IT WAS CLEAR CUT FOR FUEL
WHAT?

WE ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ENERGY CRISIS.
AND WHILE YOU EXTORT THE EVERYMAN WITH YOUR STOLEN MANA-

YOU SIT PRETTY IN YOUR ROYAL PET-BED.
I BEG YOUR PARDON.

YOU HEARD ME DID YOUR SPIFFY NEW SUIT COME WITH A LEASH WHEN YOU SOLD OUT YOUR REALM, SQUIRE?

HOW DARE YOU!
I'M NOT THE ONE ROBBING GRAVES TO LINE MY OWN POCKETS!
NAH! YOU'RE FILLING THE GRAVES TO DO IT!

WYND!

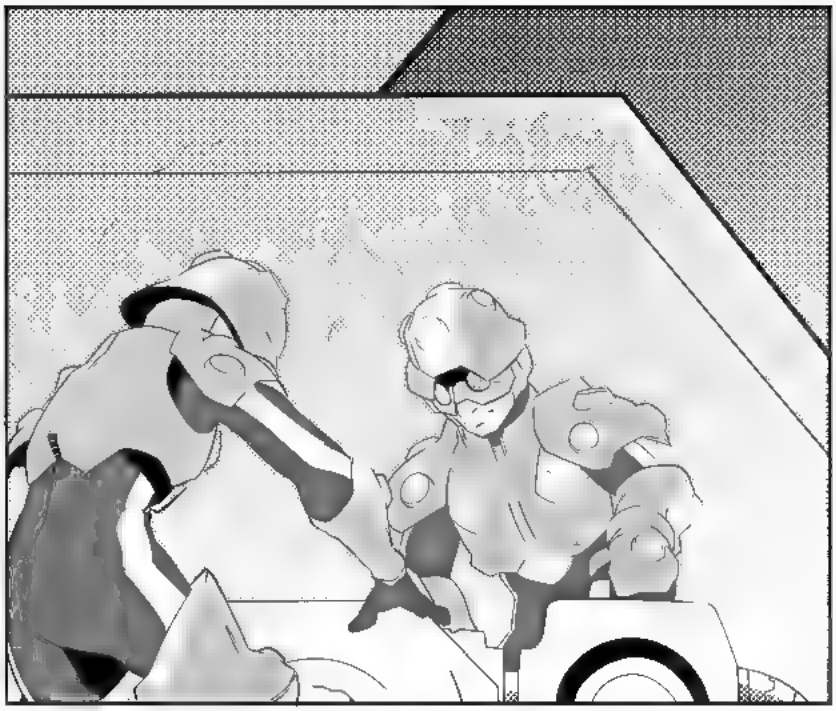
BOJGH'S BEND IS A SMALL QUEENDOM IT'S ONE OF THE SMALLER BRANCHES OF DOMINANT CROWN.
SO?

SO- EVEN IF IT'S SMALL AND FORGETABLE, IT WOULD BE QUITE THE POLITICAL FAUX PAUS IF GALAXANT WERE TO FELL THE FOREST OF ONE OF THEIR OWN SQUIRES
WE ALL DO WHAT WE CAN TO PROTECT OUR TREES- AM I RIGHT?
..VERY ASTUTE OF YOU.

SQUIRE, IF I MAY ..
CLEARLY THIS WAS ALL A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING BY A BUNCHA RUBES.
ARRESTIN' US, IMPOUNDIN THE SHIP- THAT'S A LOT O' TIME AND PAPERWORK
HOWSABOUT YOU JUST TAKE THE MANA.
IT BELONGS TO GALAXANT ANYWAY

YOU GIVE US A STERN WARNING N' WE'LL GET OUTTA YER WAY

WE'LL BE CONFISCATING THE ILLEGALY SIEZED MANA AND YOU WILL BE FINED.
V-VERY GENEROUS OF YOU, MA'AM



SIXTY ..
EIGHTY.
FOUR-HUNDRED

REMEMBER WHERE YOU WERE THE DAY YOUR TREE FELL, MISTER LITOR.

I WILL
I'LL REMEMBER WHERE YOU STOOD TO

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GHW-N-N-N-N

RRRRRRRGH!

I HATE GALAXANT!
I'LL GET JS MOVIN'

I COULD'VE TAKEN EACH OF THOSE SELF-RIGHTEOUS ASSHOLES!
PROBABLY AND THAT WOULD'VE EXPOSED WHAT YOU ARE TO THE REST OF THE REALM.
PAT PAT

RRRRGH! I HATE HAVING TO HIDE LIKE THIS!
I KNOW. QUICK THINKING WITH THE GLAMOUR BIT THOUGH.

THANKS.
SIGH
I'M GONNA GO GET LISIE. SHE'S GOTTA BE WORRIED SICK BY NOW.
INDUBITABLY

HEY SQUIRT! COAST IS CLEAR!
COME ON OUT!
. CAN'T! I'M STUCK!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? I WAS AS STRONG AS JOBBUN AT YOUR AGE
YEAH, WELL, I'M STILL LITTLE!
WAS IT GAHL-AHX-ANT?
YUP. BUNCHA JERKS.
AREN'T THEY SUPPOSED TO BE THE PROTECTORS?
SUPPOSED TO BE, YEAH.
THEN ARE WE THE BAD GUYS?
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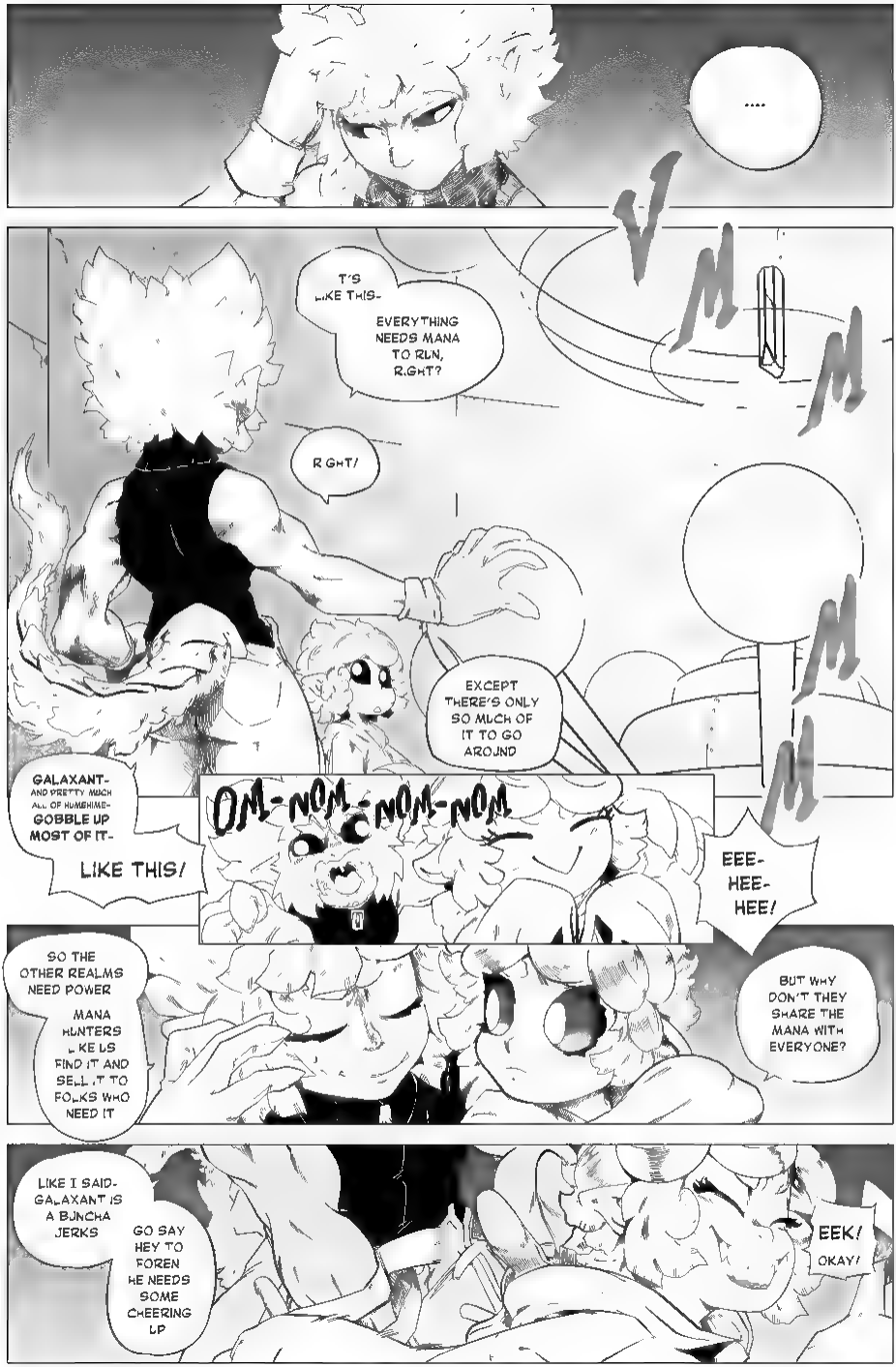
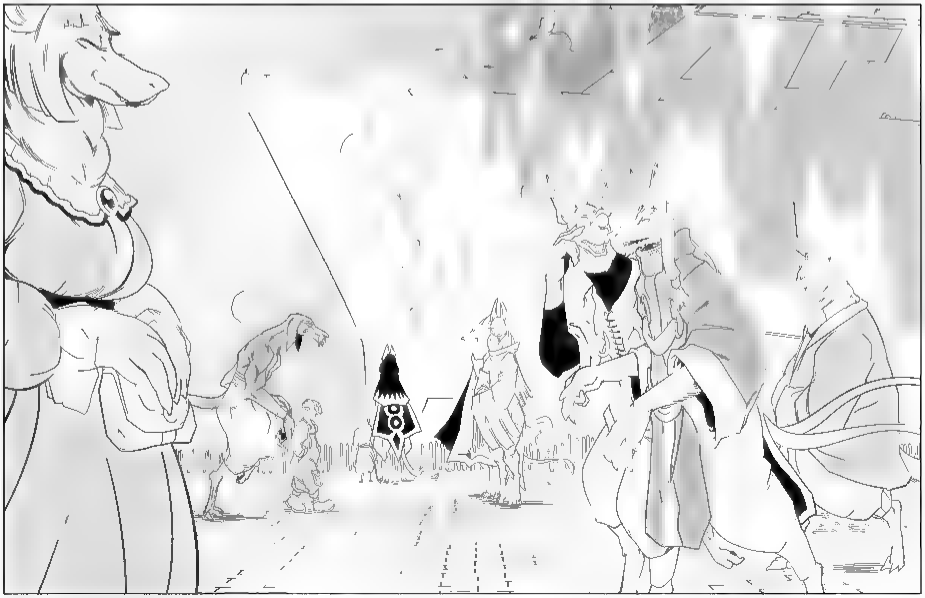
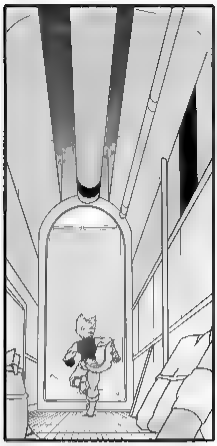
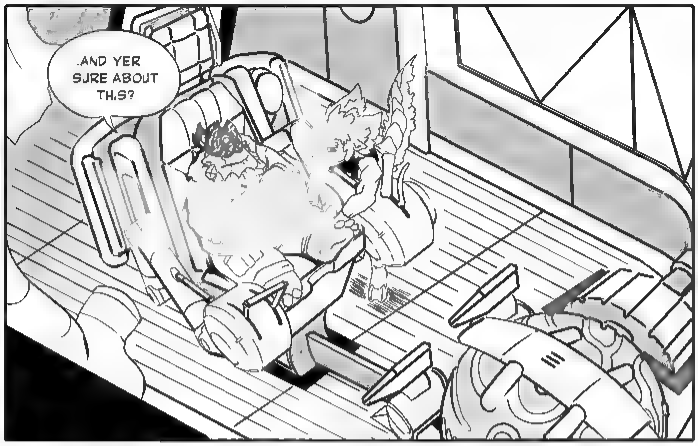
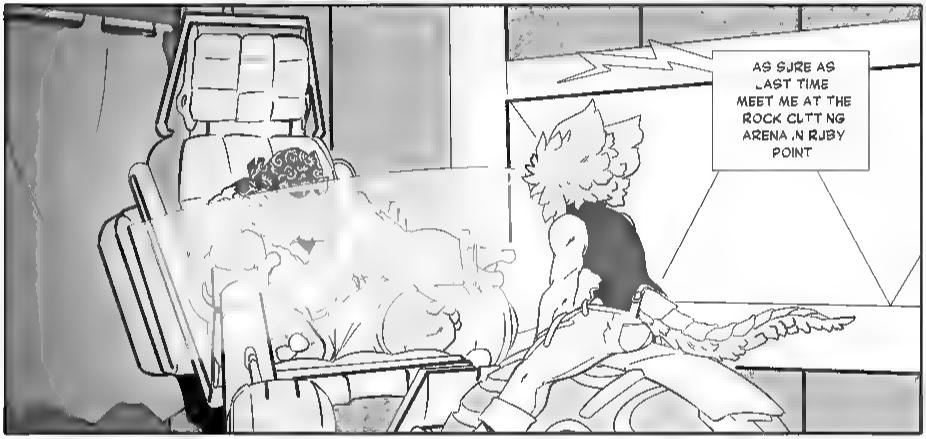

....
IT'S LIKE THIS-
EVERYTHING NEEDS MANA TO RUN, RIGHT?
RIGHT!
EXCEPT THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH OF IT TO GO AROUND
GALAXANT- AND PRETTY MUCH ALL OF HUMEHIME- GOBBLE UP MOST OF IT-
LIKE THIS!
OM-NOM-NOM-NOM
EEE-HEE-HEE!
SO THE OTHER REALMS NEED POWER
MANA HUNTERS LIKE US FIND IT AND SELL IT TO FOLKS WHO NEED IT
BUT WHY DON'T THEY SHARE THE MANA WITH EVERYONE?
LIKE I SAID- GALAXANT IS A BUNCHA JERKS
GO SAY HEY TO FOREN HE NEEDS SOME CHEERING UP
EEK!
OKAY!

THE CANOPY



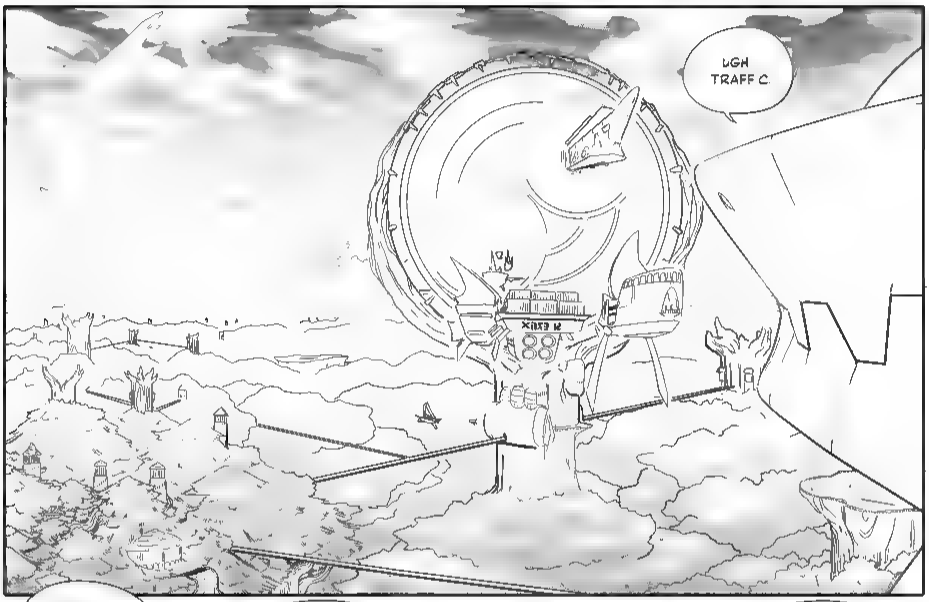



.AND YER SJRE ABOUT TH.S?

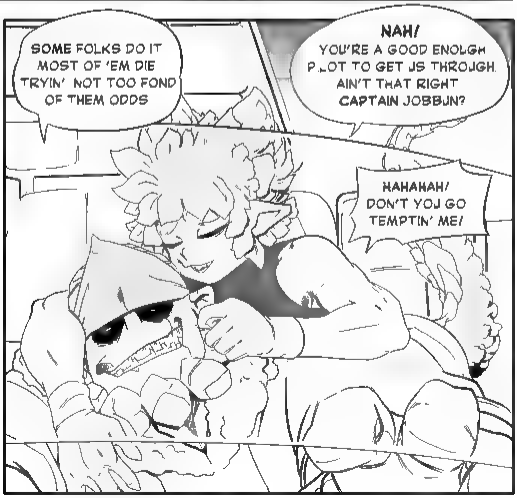

AS SJRE AS ⌊AST TIME MEET ME AT THE ROCK CUTT NG ARENA .N RJBY POINT

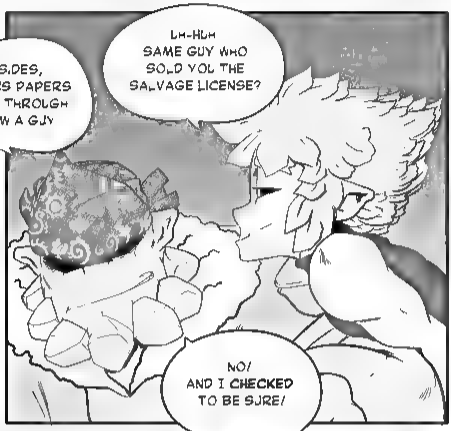
YER THE BEST! SEE YOU IN A FEW!

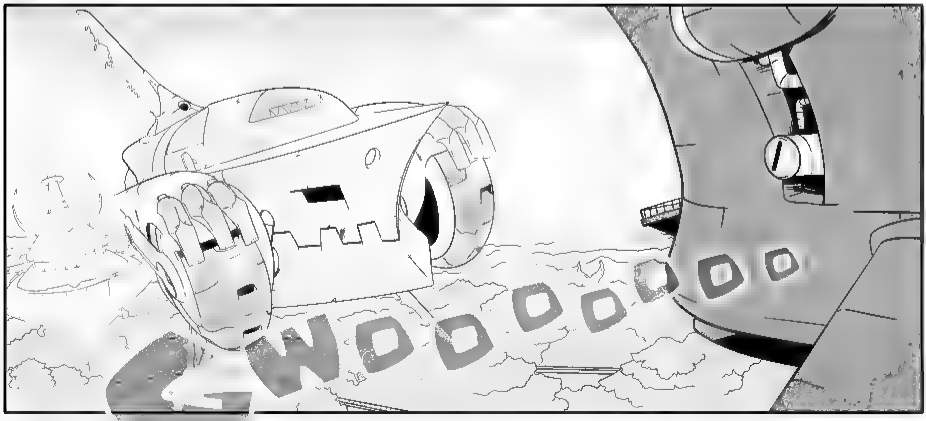
A⌊READY ⌊ANDED JS ANOTHER D VE?
YJP I KNOW A GUY GONNA LINK LP WITH HIM IN DROFHIME


UGH TRAFF C.

YER WELCOME TO GET OUT AND WALK IF YER IN A HURRY
FLYING THROUGH THE ETHER WOULD BE EASIER
WOOSH!
STRAIGHT THROUGH TO THE NEXT REALM!


SOME FOLKS DO IT MOST OF 'EM DIE TRYIN' NOT TOO FOND OF THEM ODDS
NAH!
YOU'RE A GOOD ENOUGH PILOT TO GET US THROUGH. AIN'T THAT RIGHT CAPTAIN JOBBUN?
HAHAHAH! DON'T YOU GO TEMPTIN' ME!





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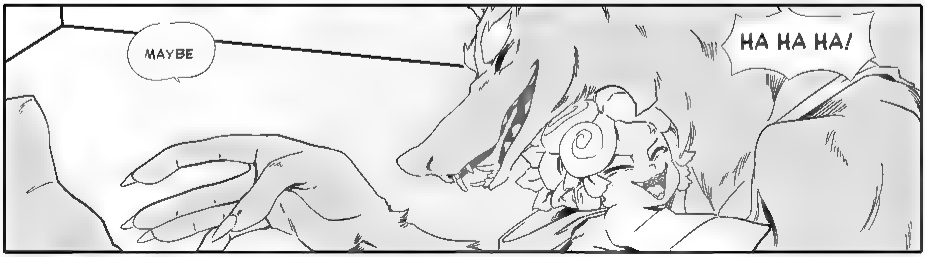
FOREN?
MAY I COME IN?
OF COURSE HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I'M FINE CAME TO CHECK ON YOU?
OH?
WYND SAID YOU WERE GRUMPY AND AND
AND YOU ALWAYS GET GRUMPY WHEN WE GO TO AJEH ME
ISN'T THAT YOUR HOME? SHOULDN'T GOING HOME MAKE YOU HAPPY?
YOU WOULD THINK THAT

THREE
TWO
ONE
LAUNCH!

HA HA HA!

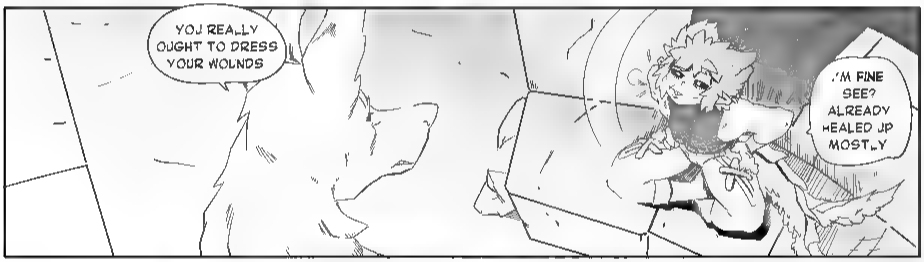
'M SORRY 'VE BEEN GRUMPY
IT WAS A VERY TIR.NG DAY, BJT I DON'T MEAN TO GRUMP AT YOJ
. AM PROM SE
AND YOJ'RE OKAY?

OKAY ENOUGH TO MAKE PAMCAKES?
AH-HAAA! S THAT THE REAL REASON YOL CAME DOWN HERE
NOOOOO!

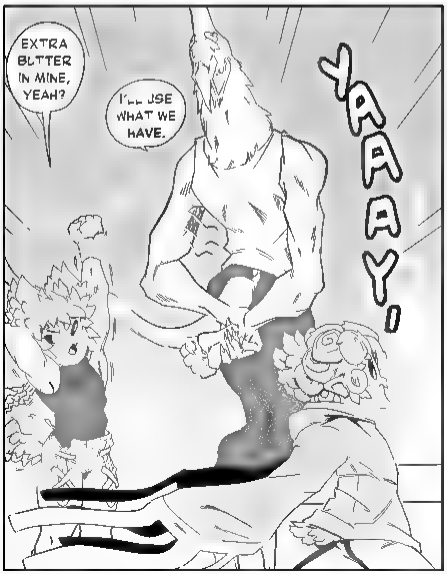

MAYBE
HA HA HA!

RMRM

RMRM RMRM
WYND! FOREN'S GONNA MAKE PANCAKES!
SWEET! SIGN ME UP!
crackle...
crackle...
crackle...
crackle...
I SEE HOW IT IS! A BLASTED CONSPIRACY!


YOU REALLY OUGHT TO DRESS YOUR WOUNDS
I'M FINE SEE? ALREADY HEALED UP MOSTLY

THEN WASH. IT'S UNSANITARY
WYND! WYND! WILL YOU READ ME A STORY WHILE FOREN COOKS?
SURE, SQUIRT GO GET A BOOK

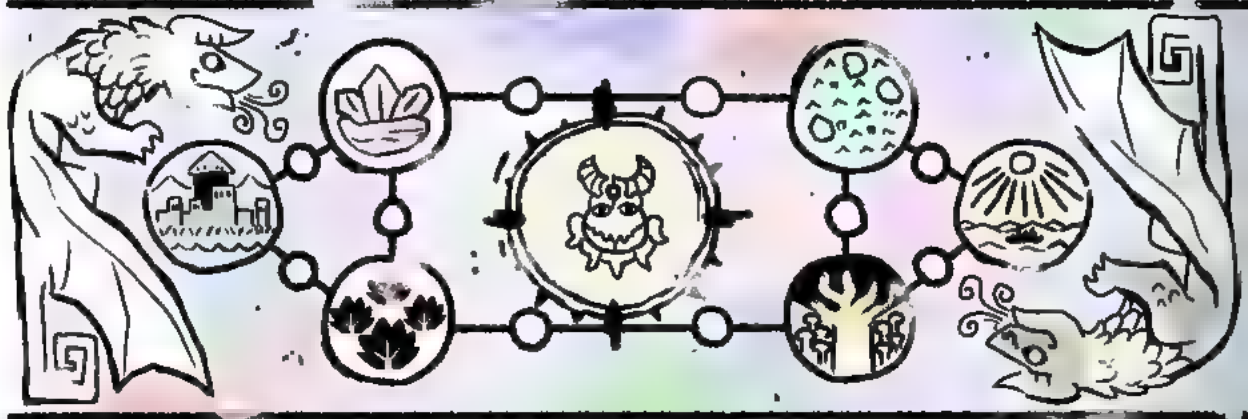

EXTRA BUTTER IN MINE, YEAH?
I'LL USE WHAT WE HAVE.
YAAAY!

SMMMMMM
THIS ONE! THIS ONE!

REALMS OF GALAXANT
OH WOW! I HAVEN'T SEEN THIS IN FOREVER WHERE'D YOU FIND IT?
BURIED IN YOUR STUFF.

WE'LL MAKE A MANA HUNTER OUT OF YOUR YET!
HEE HEE HEE!

AHEM. "WE ALL LIVE IN GALAXANT..."

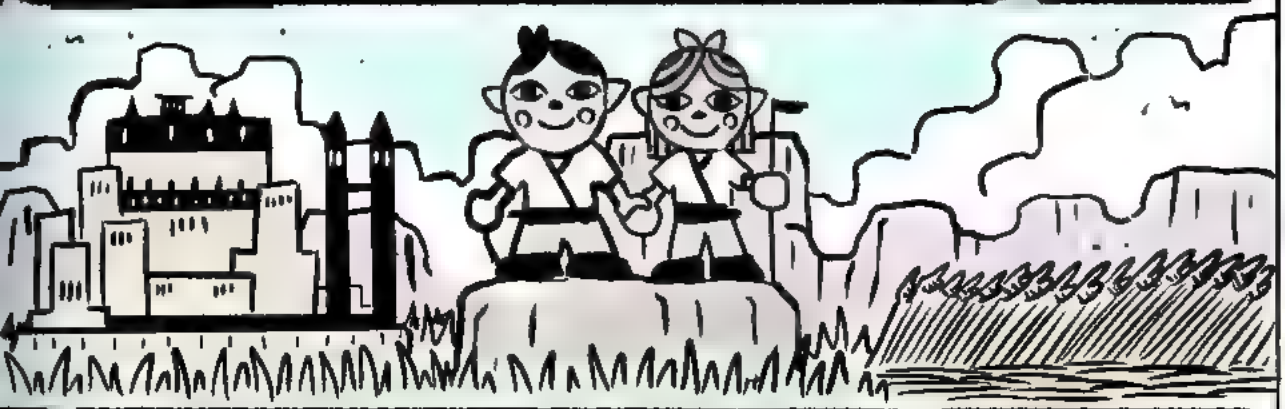


WE ALL LIVE IN GALAXANT

THE KINGDOM THAT ~~RULES~~ CONTROLS THE COSMOS!

THERE ARE MANY REALMS.

LET'S VISIT THEM ALL!

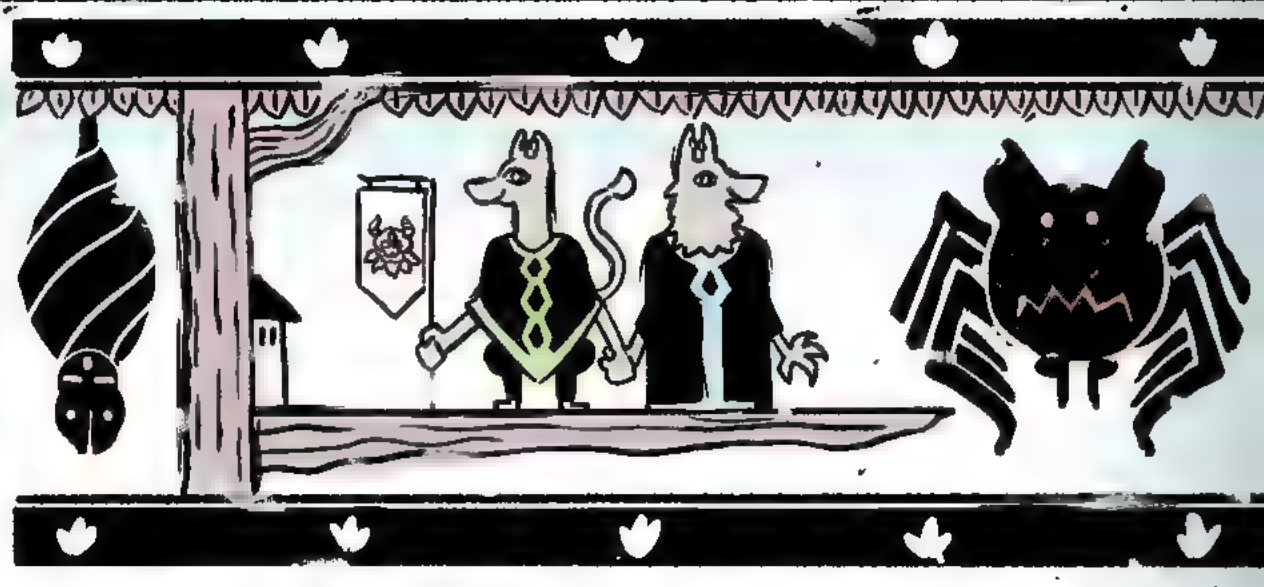


WE ~~ALL LIVE~~ REGULARLY VISIT IN HUMEHIME:

ONE OF THE SIX ~~THE GREATEST~~ REALMS ~~OF ALL~~.

EVERYONE WORKS HARD AND HAS FUN HERE!

THANK YOU, MARSHALS AND RANGERS, FOR KEEPING US SAFE!

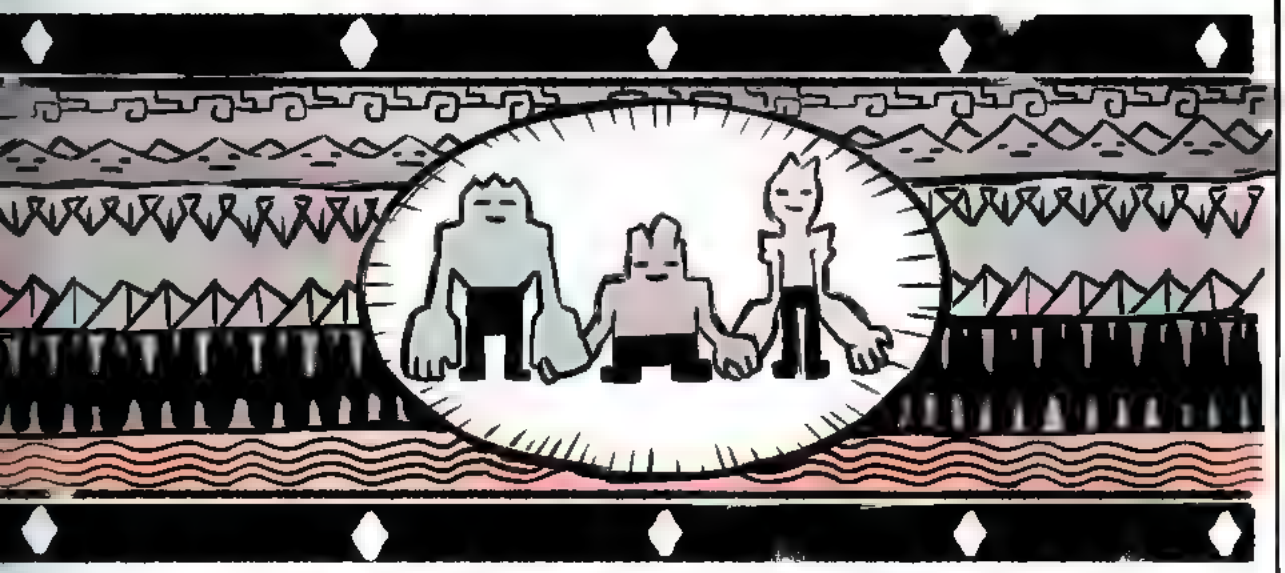


NEXT IS AJEHIME, THE REALM OF TREES!

THE AJE LIVE HERE. THEY HAVE LONG TAILS AND FUR!

THEY ~~PRETEND TO~~ HAVE MANY KINGDOMS JUST LIKE US.

REMEMBER ~~SILLY~~ AJE! THERE IS ONLY ONE KING ~~OUR~~ OF GALAXANT KING ARCTURUS!

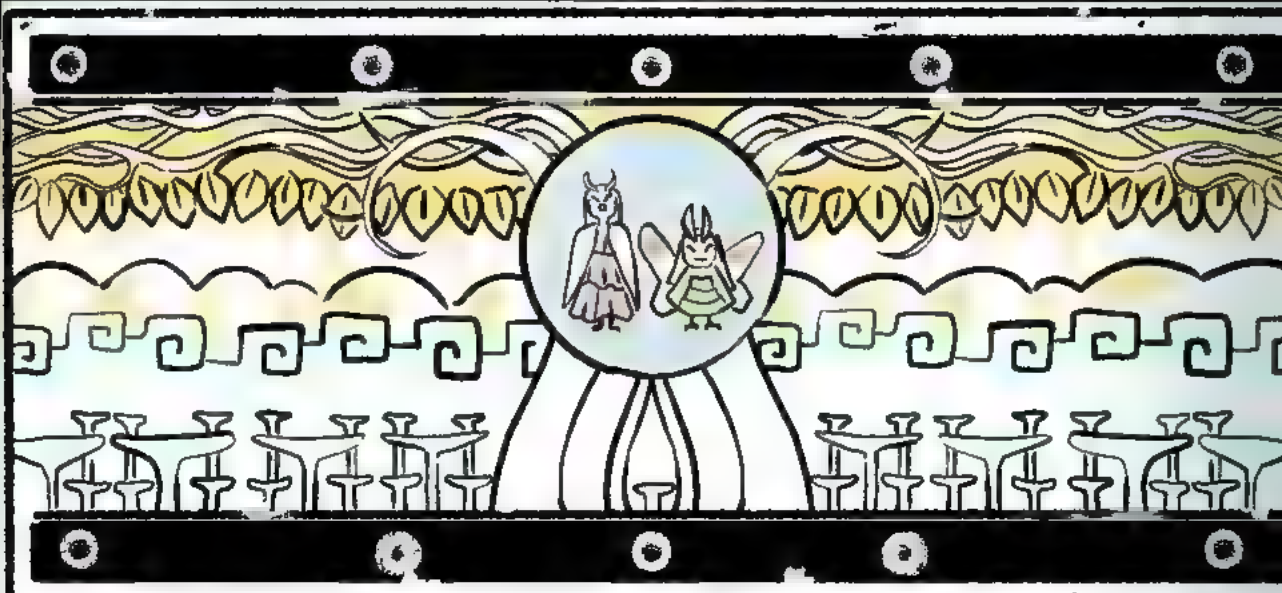


NOW WE'RE IN DROFHIME, THE REALM OF STONE

THE DROF ARE HARD WORKERS WHO ~~DO WHAT THEY'RE TOLD~~ HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF SKILLS AND HOBBIES.

THEY ARE A ROCK-LIKE ~~THAT ACT LIKE~~

THEY DO NOT HAVE BOYS OR GIRLS ~~HOW CONFUSING!~~ AND IT WORKS FINE FOR THEM.

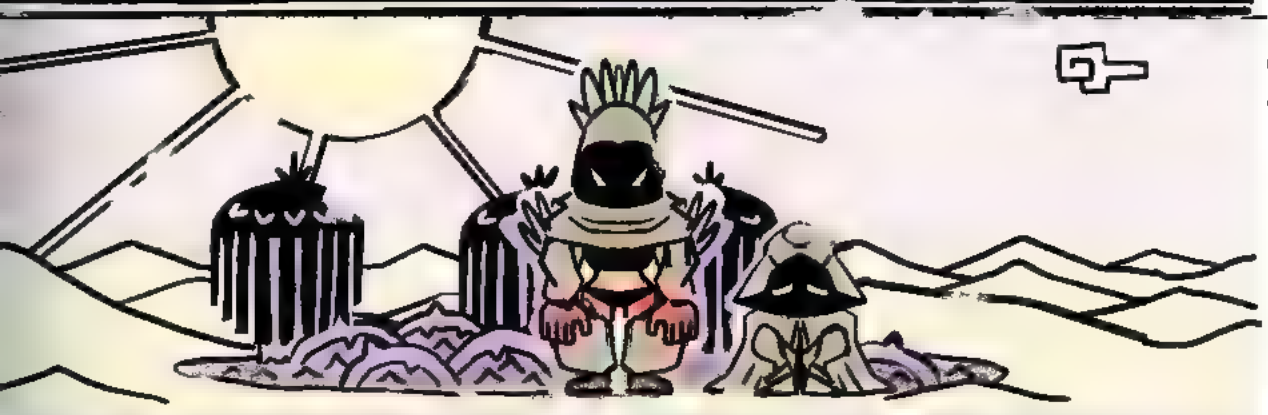


HERE WE ARE IN ENCHANTIHIME!

THE ENCHANTI ~~LOOK LIKE GIANT BUGS!~~ HAVE MANY KINDS OF WINGS

THEY'RE RULED BY ~~WE LET THEM HAVE A~~ QUEEN ~~TO~~ TITANIA WHO LOOK AFTER THEM

SHE IS FORCED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ~~BUT SHE STILL ANSWERS TO OUR~~ FOREVER KING!



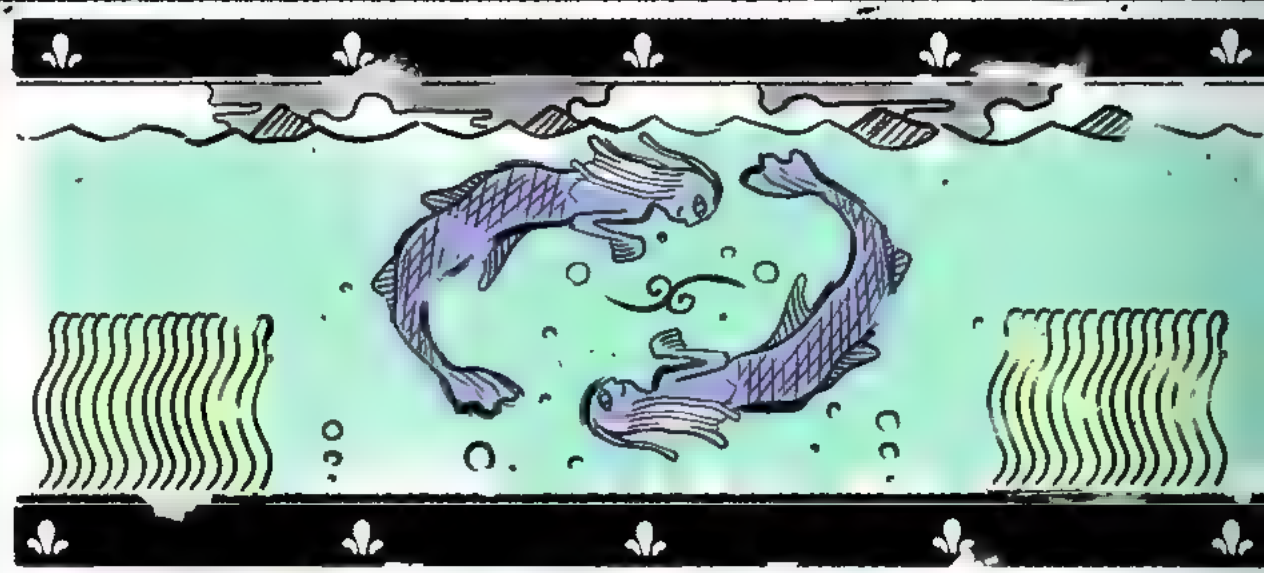
WE WON'T STAY LONG IN ORKUNEHIME - IT IS A SCARY REALM!

THE ONLY WATER IS IN ~~NASTY~~ FERTILE BOGS - THE REST IS DESERT!

THE GIRLS ~~ARE BIG AND MEAN THE THE BOYS ARE SAD AND WEAK.~~ RULE AS MATRIARCHS IN CLOSE KNIT FAMILY TRIBES

THEY'VE LEARNED TO SURVIVE IN THEIR REALM

~~IT MAKES ME GLAD I'M A HUME!~~



SPLISH-SPLASH! LET'S GO FOR A SWIM IN NURMINHIME!

THERE ARE LOTS OF ~~STRANGE CREATURES HERE~~! DIFFERENT KINDS OF NURMIN ~~SOME CAN EVEN ACT~~ THEY ARE PEOPLE JUST LIKE US!

THEY NEED WATER TO BREATHE, SO THEY DON'T LEAVE HOME OFTEN.

~~SOME OF THEM TASTE GREAT~~! THEY HAVE A ROBUST FISHING MARKET.

ALL OF THE REALMS ARE RULED BY KING ARCTURUS- THE FOREVER KING!

~~THE DRAGUNE MADE HIM KING WITH THEIR DIVINE POWERS~~! HE LIVES IN A BIG CASTLE IN KHAMELOTTE

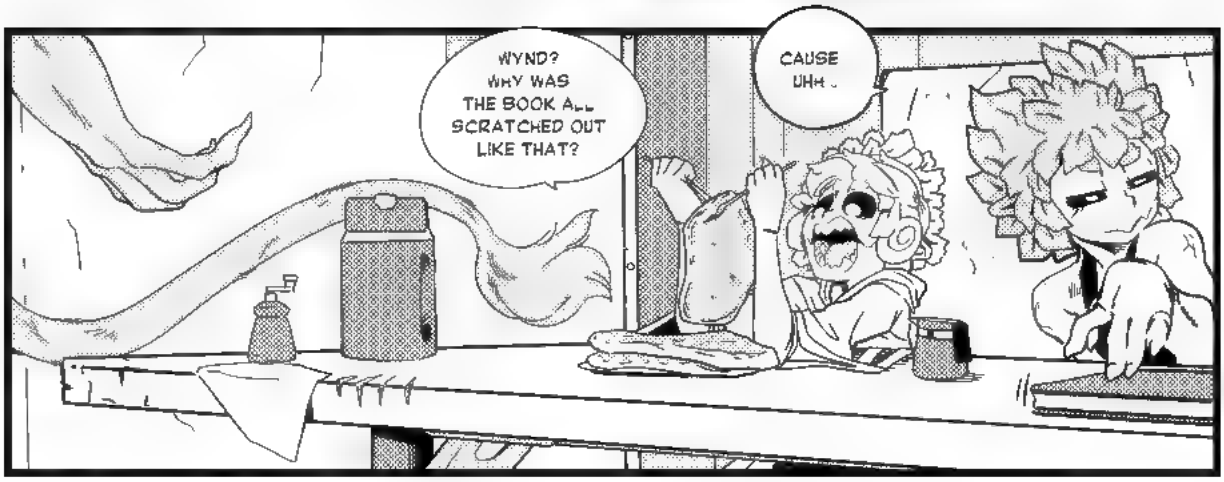
HIS KNIGHTS OF GALAXANT ~~KEEP ALL~~ POLICE THE REALMS ~~SAFE AND HAPPY~~!

~~THANK YOU, KNIGHTS! THANK YOU, FOREVER KING~~! THE KNIGHTS AND KING ARE LOOKING FOR DRAGUNE.

~~HOORAY FOR GALAXANT~~! BE AWARE. BE SAFE.

BE AWARE
BE SAFE..

AS THE LADY REQUESTED- PANCAKES
YAYPAMCAKES.

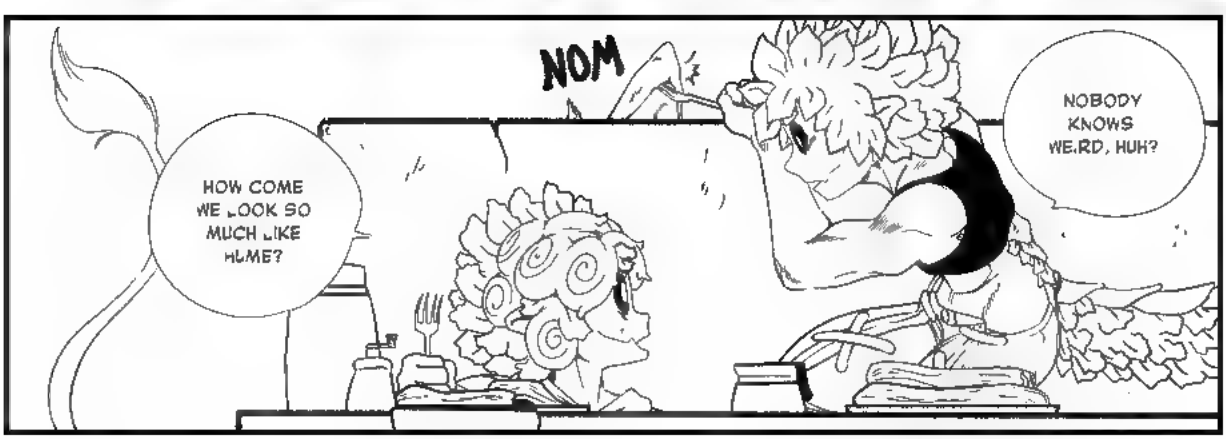

WYND? WHY WAS THE BOOK ALL SCRATCHED OUT LIKE THAT?
CAUSE UHH ..

IT WAS FULL OF TYPOS BUT FOREN FIXED IT UP FOR ME!

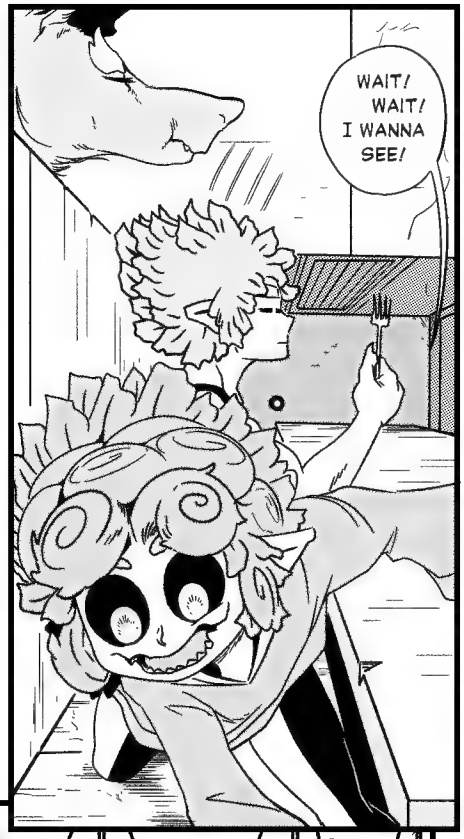
REALLY?
YEAH HE USED TO READ IT TO ME ALL THE TIME WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE
THANKS FOR PROOF READING IT FOR ME
MMM

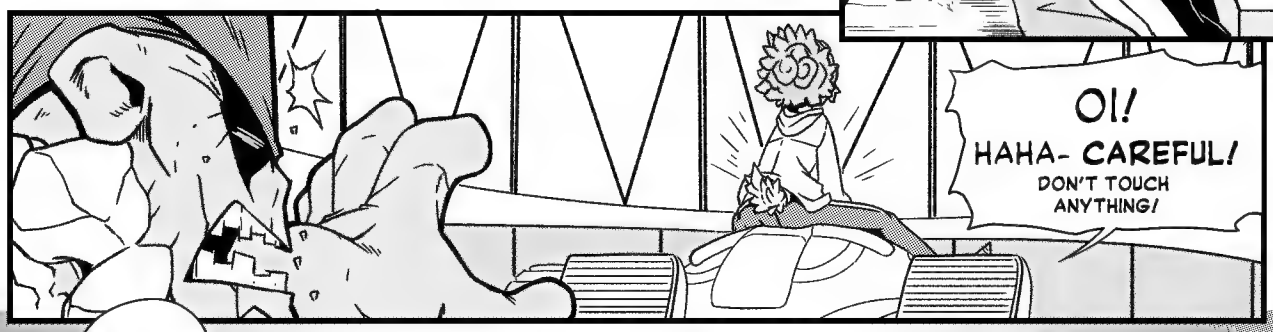
..ARE ALL KID'S BOOKS LIKE THAT IN HUMEH.ME?
NOT JUST HUMEHIME GALAXANT MAKES SURE TO STOCK THE LIBRARIES AND OVERSEE MEDIA ACROSS THE REALMS
KEEPS THE MESSAGE CLEAR, YOU SEE REMINDS US OF WHAT WE ARE AND WHERE WE BELONG

UH-HUH
WE ALSO D.DN'T WANT YOU DEVELOPING A GOD COMPLEX. YOU'RE BAD ENOUGH AS IT IS.
BECAUSE I'M INNATELY AWESOME!

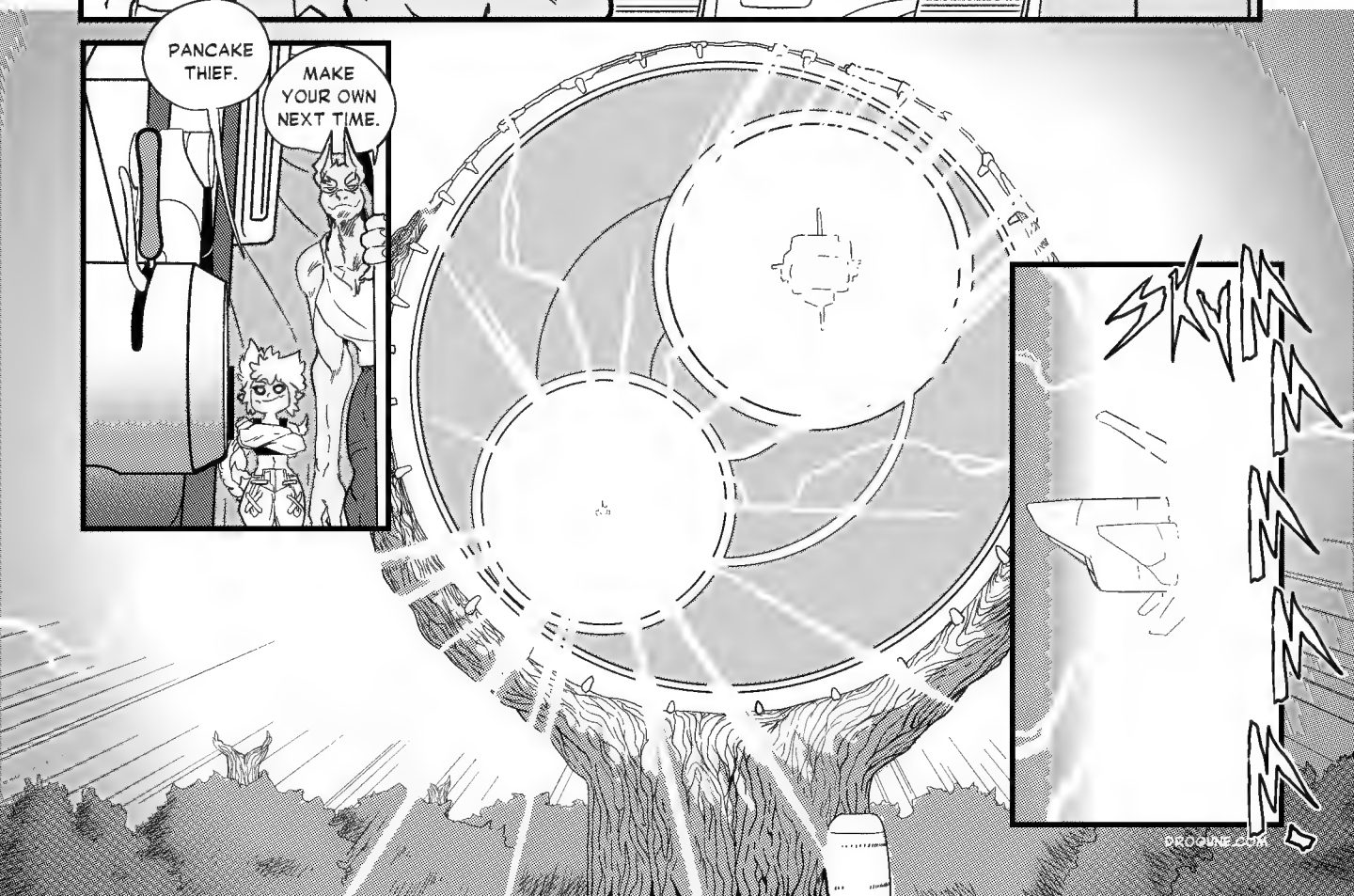

NOM
HOW COME WE LOOK SO MUCH LIKE HUME?
NOBODY KNOWS WE.RD, HUH?

HEY LISIE! WE'RE AT THE GATEWAY AND ABOUT T' ENTER THE LEYLINE!


WAIT! WAIT! I WANNA SEE!


OI!
HAHA- CAREFUL!
DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!

PANCAKE THIEF.
MAKE YOUR OWN NEXT TIME.


SKYMMMMM

DROGUNE.COM

WOOOOOOW!

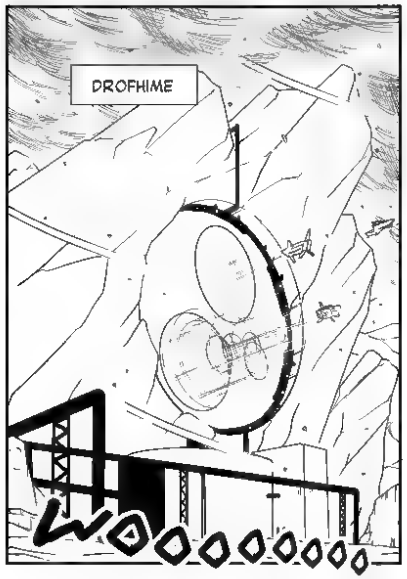
FIREBURB.COM

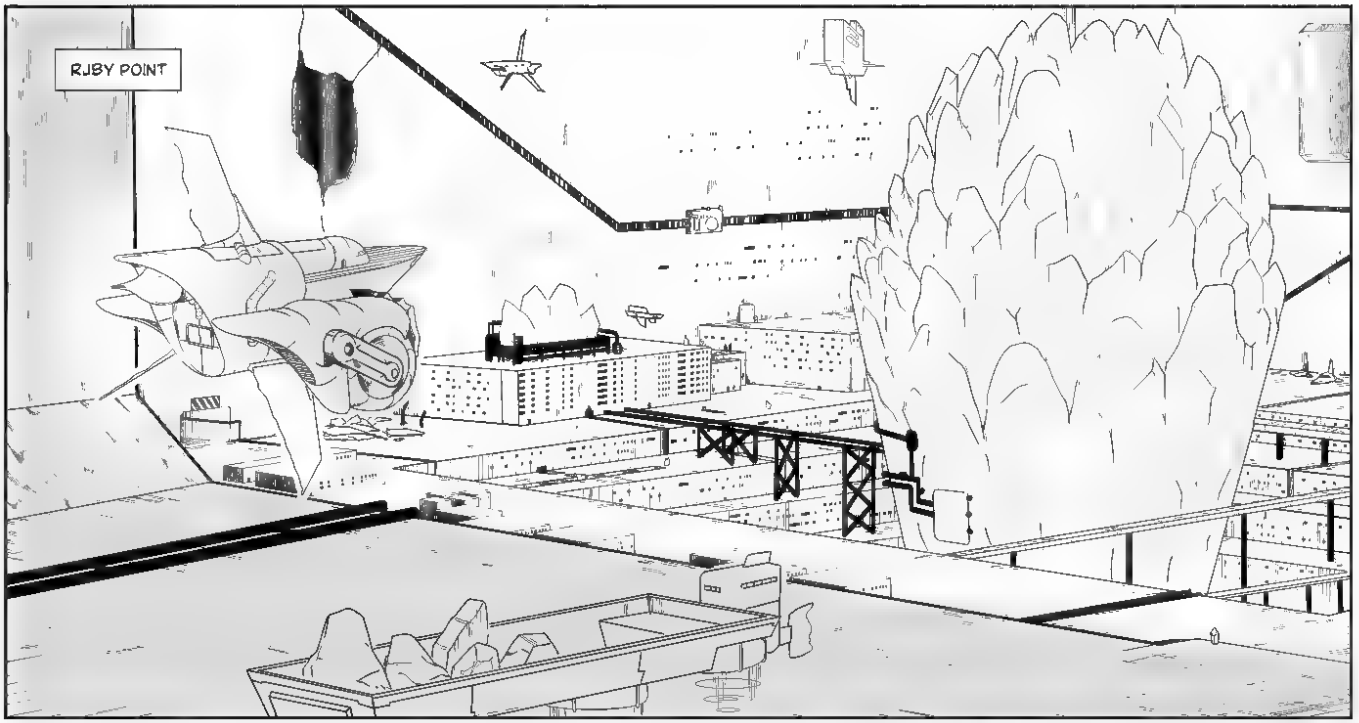
ALL RIGHT- YOU GOT TO SEE THE LEYL NE NOW COME FINISH YOUR FOOD BEFORE .T GETS COLD
JOBBJN! JOBBJN! CAN I EAT MY PAMCAKES IN HERE AND WATCH THE LEYL NE?
HEH, SJRE.
YAAAAAAAAAAY!
YOU NEVER LET ME EAT IN THE COCKPIT
'CAJSE YOJ NEVER EAT WITH YER GOB SHUT. I DON'T WANT CRUMBS IN MY COCKPIT
THAT'S IT! FOREN'S THE CAPTA.N!
TREASON!
NO WAIT
MJT.NY!

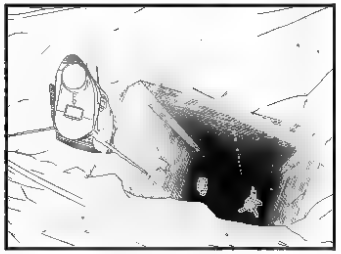
DROGJNE COM

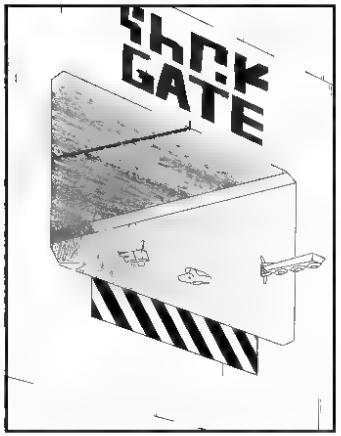
YE
A
R

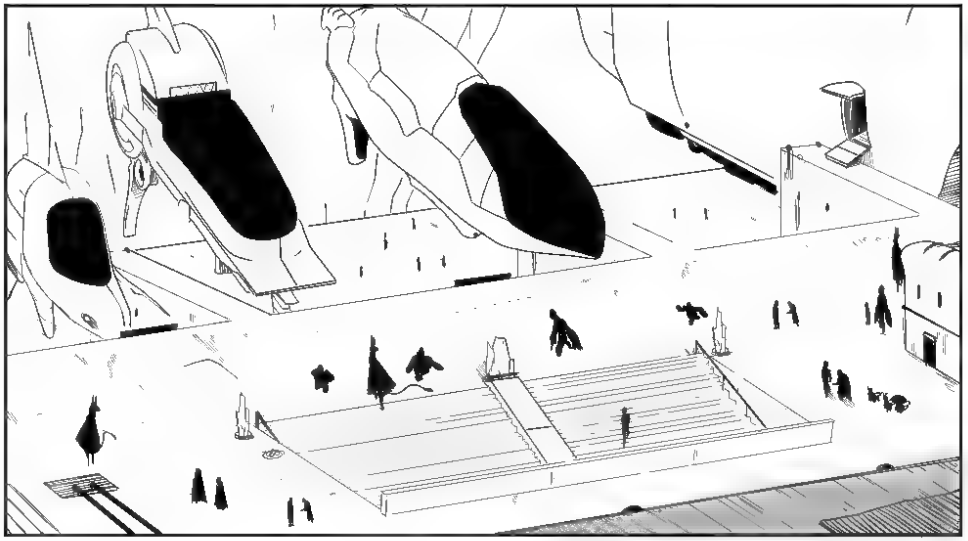
DROGUNE COM

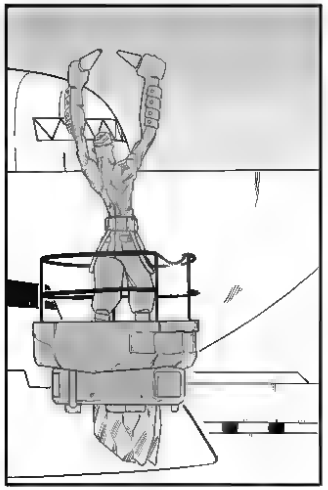

DROFHIME
WOOOOOOOO


RJBY POINT



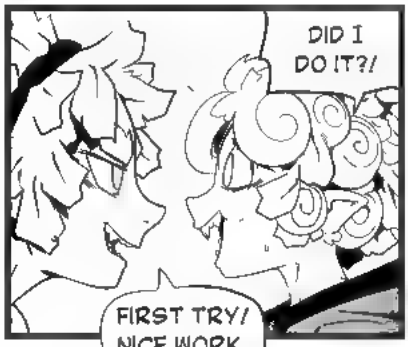

SHCK
GATE



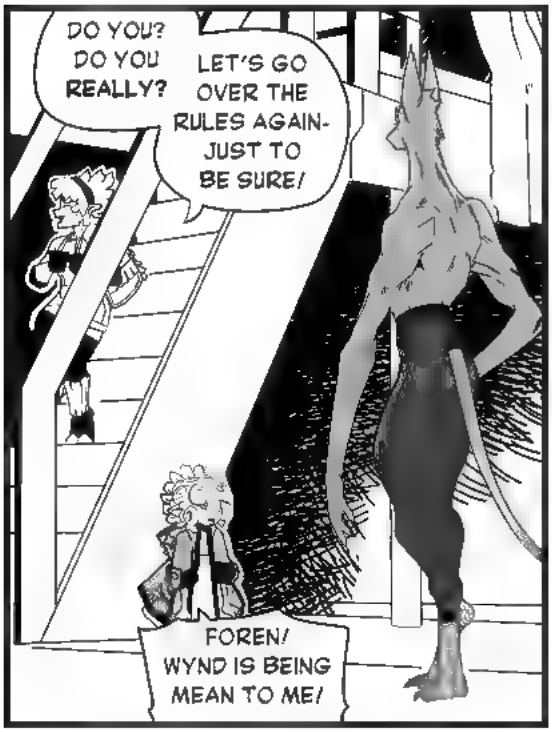


RUBY POINT IS A PRETTY TAME TOWN, BUT YOU'VE STILL GOT TO BE AWARE, GOT IT?
I GOT IT.
OKAY, NOW FOR YOUR EYES. JUST LIKE I SHOWED YOU.

HNNNNNG!


DID I DO IT?!
FIRST TRY! NICE WORK, SQUIRT.

NOW REMEMBER: DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS.
DON'T ACCEPT GIFTS FROM ANYBODY.
DON'T APPROACH THE VENDORS. LET...
I KNOW.
I KNOW.
I KNOW!


DO YOU? DO YOU REALLY?
LET'S GO OVER THE RULES AGAIN- JUST TO BE SURE!
FOREN! WYND IS BEING MEAN TO ME!

SHE NAGS BECUASE SHE CARES.
STEP LIVELY, CHILDREN

HOW ARE WE ON TIME?
RIGHT ON SCHEDULE MY GUY WANTS TO MEET AT THE ARENA.
USE THE ROCK CUTTING EVENT AS COVER.
MMM. THAT MIGHT BE A BIT TOO MUCH FOR LISIE... WYND, TAKE HER SHOPPING UNTIL WE GET BACK.
AWWW! WHAT?!
YEAH, THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE--

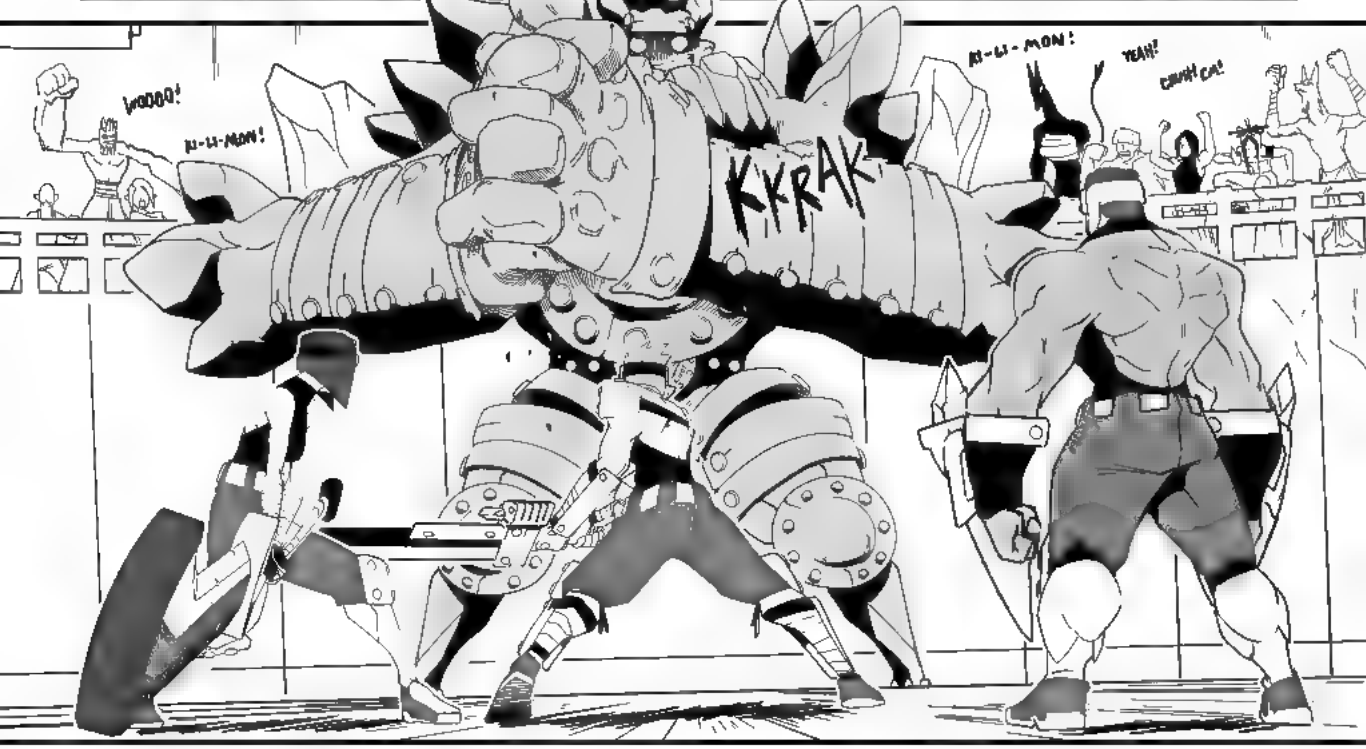
WAIT.
WHO'S THE SLAB?
KILLIMON!
AWWW! WHAT?!

I AM NOT MISSING THAT! WE'RE COMING!
I HELPED WITH THE WAND, DIDN'T I?
I WANNA COME TOO!
I WANNA COME TOO!

FINE! WE'RE ALL GOING!
WOOHOO!
KI-LI-MON! KI-LI-MON!

YAY!

RAAAA-
AAAAA
NOOO.


WOOOO!
KI-LI-MON!
KKRAK
KI-LI-MON!
YEAH!
GRAH! GA!

YEEEAH!
WOOO!

DROGUNE.COM

ARE... ARE THEY HURTING THAT BIG DROF?
WAH? NAH!
KILIMON IS HARDER THAN STEEL! TOUGHER THAN DIAMOND!
RRRGH!
OKAY, SO IT GETS A BIT ROUGH.
BUT ROCK CUTTING DATES BACK TO PRE-HISTORY! AND NOWADAYS IT'S MORE ABOUT THE SPECTACLE THAN BEIN' A BLOOD SPORT.
...BLOOD SPORT?
YEAH!
CUT HIM DOWN TO SIZE!
GRAVEL! MAKE IT GRAVEL!
DROGUNE.COM

D-DID ALL THESE HUME COME HERE JUST TO SEE THE FIGHT?

HUH? OH- YEAH! EVERY ONE OF THE QUARRYMEN ARE A-LEAGUE THIS ROUND!

UM...OH. AND THE DROF? WHY ARE THEY WATCHING ONE OF THEIRS GET BEAT-UP

WHAM

CRUNCH

YAAAAAAY!

THAT'S WHY.

YEAH!

WOO!

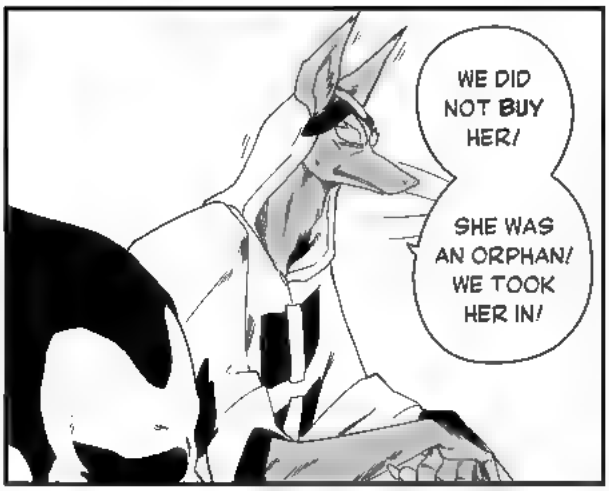
C'MON KILIMON! PUT THE NEXT ONE INTO ORBIT!

Y-YAY KI-LI-MON! UM.. DO GOOD!

DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE ME CLIMB ALL THE WAY TO THE NOSEBLEEDS, MISTER FOREN?
APOLOGIES. OUR "LUXURY BOX FUND" WENT TO A GALAXANT FINE.
YOU'RE THE CONTACT?
YOU CAN CALL ME YORICK.
DID JOBBUN TELL YOU WHAT I FOUND?
ANOTHER UNTOUCHED DROGUNE TEMPLE OF HUMEHIME.
RIGHT. DEEP IN THE FORESTS OF BRAVE BARONY.
CRASH
I'M SURPRISED YOU'D TRUST US WITH ANOTHER SUCH DIVE.
WE DIDN'T EXACTLY SUCEED LAST TIME
THE FOREVER KING HAS A KNIGHT PATROLLING SPECIFICALLY FOR DROGUNE RELICS ON HUMEHIME. IT'S NO SURPRISE YOU GOT PINCHED. IF ANYTHING IT'S AMAZING YOU GOT OUT ALIVE
IT'S THE SAME DEAL AS BEFORE. IT'S A DANGEROUS DIVE, MAYBE MORE DANGEROUS NOW, BUT THE POTENTIAL RICHES ARE INCALCULABLE.
I'LL BE TAKING A LARGER CUT THIS TIME, OF COURSE.
YAAA
AH. THERE'S THE RUB.
COUGH COUGH

I'M ALSO CURIOUS HOW YOU'VE MANAGED TO FIND TWO LONG-LOST DROGUNE SITES IN A MATTER OF MONTHS-
-WHEN GALAXANT HASN'T IN GENERATIONS

TRADE SECRET.
YOU DON'T ASK ABOUT THAT, AND I WON'T ASK WHY YOU BOUGHT YOURSELF A LITTLE GIRL SINCE LAST TIME


WE DID NOT BUY HER!
SHE WAS AN ORPHAN! WE TOOK HER IN!

YOUR BOAT, YOUR RULES.
JUST... JUST GIVE ME THE COORDINATES!
HERE YOU GO. SAFE TRAVELS.

FOUL!
FOUL!
WHERE'S THE REF?!

GET THE GOODS?
YES. YOUR CONTACT IS A GUTTER-MINDED SLEAZE
HEH, TAKES ALL TYPES.

BUT WHO CARES WHEN WE HAVE ENOUGH DOSH TO BUY OUR OWN MOON, EH? EH?
. TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS, AS THEY SAY.

...WHICH MEANS SHE CAN'T MAKE A LATERAL CUT UNTIL THE ASSIGNED DECOY IS AT LEAST A METER AWAY!
OKAY!
SO THEY SHOULD'VE CALLED A FOUL AND HAD A PENALTY, BUT THEY DIDN'T AND IT'S STUPID! GET IT?
...NO!

THEN JUST SCREAM WHAT YOJ WANT THEM TO DO.
GO MISTER DROF! DON'T GET HURT!
ATTAGIRL.

DROGJNE.COM

THAT WAS EXCITING/ AND THE CUTTER PEOPLE ARE GONNA BE OKAY RIGHT?

UH .. **SURE.** THEY'VE GOT SOME GREAT HEALERS ON-SITE.

HOW **EXACTLY** D.D YOU FIND OJR CONTACT?

OH, I DIDN'T. I KNOW A GUY WHO L.NKS UP ALL SORTS OF CONTRACTS HE PO.NTED US TO OUR "CLIENT"

AND YOU FOUND YOUR GO-BETWEEN HOW?

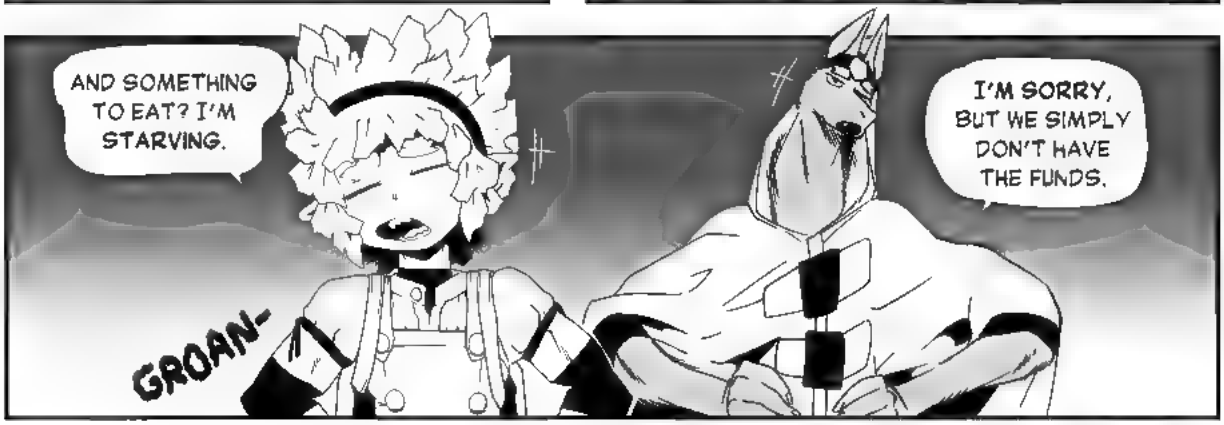
I KNOW A GUY WHO KNEW A GUY WHO ASKED AROUND ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER AND- BOOM/ -PAYD.RT/

YOU ARE NOT FILLING ME W.TH CONFIDENCE.

LOOK, I'VE GOTTEN US ENOUGH SOLID DIVES, AIN'T I? **TRUST** ME.

FOREN-
FOREN-
FOREN!

CAN I HAVE A HAT? PLEASE- PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEAS
HUME MERCH


AND SOMETHING TO EAT? I'M STARVING.
I'M SORRY, BUT WE SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THE FUNDS.
GROAN-

PLEEEEEASE?!
AAARGH- C MON! JJST A SAJSAGE OR SOMETHING?
IT ISN'T UP TO ME THE JOB ON AJEHIME FELL THROUGH AND NOW WE'RE BROKE

SOLUTION! WE FIND A QUICK LOCAL GIG AND GET PAID!
AND -WOT- COME BACK FOR STREET MEAT?

WHY MUST YOU CRUSH MY HOPES AND DREAMS?
YEA!

WE ALREADY HAVE A GIG LINED UP, AND IT SHOULD PAY EXCEEDINGLY WELL
FOR NOW WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH WHAT'S ONBOARD THE FORTUNE
BUT HAAAAAT.

FINE, FINE WHAT DO WE HAVE TO COOK?
AT THIS POINT?
FLOUR, OIL, AND WATER. SO...

PAMCAKES. WOO!
FOR REAL? I NEED SOME PROTEIN, FOREN!
TIMES LIKE THESE I'M GLAD I DON'T NEED TO EAT

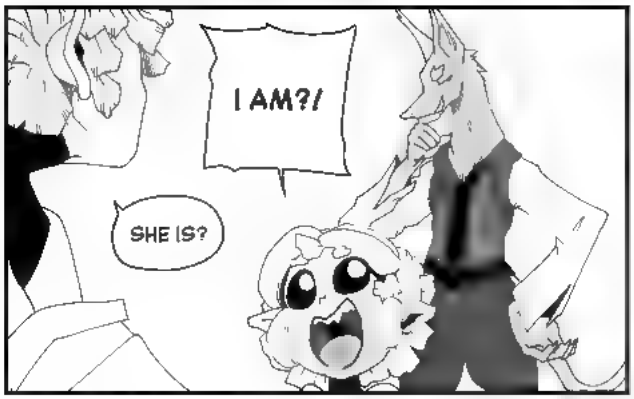
SWOOP

LISTEN UP! WE DON'T WANT A RERUN OF WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME.

JOBBUN! TAKE US A KLICK OUTSIDE OF THIS TEMPLE. THEN THROW UP EVERY CLOAKING WARD AND DETECTION SPELL WE HAVE LEFT
AYE-AYE!
CLICK

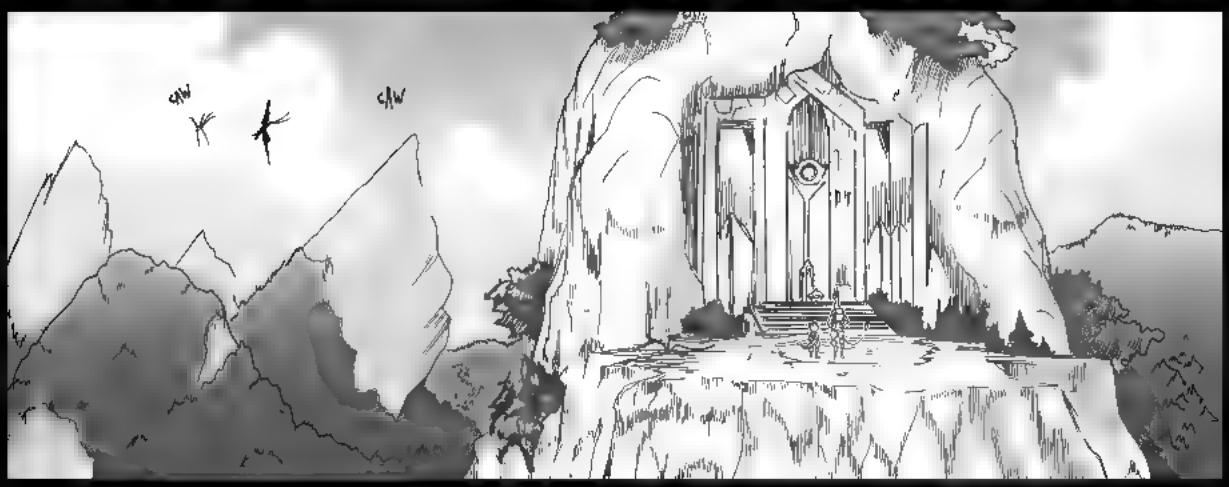
WYND! YOU AND I WILL STOCK UP ON AS MUCH MANA AS WE CAN CARRY.
I KNOW RESEARCHING THE TEMPLE WOULD MEAN A LOT TO YOU BUT--
RELAX. I'LL TEAR IT TO THE GROUND IF IT MEANS I DON'T HAVE TO EAT ANOTHER PANCAKE.

LISIE!
I KNOW. STAY ON THE SHIP, DON'T BUG UNCLE JOBBUN. BE A GOOD GIRL..
BOOTS ON, LITTLE MISS YOU'RE COMING WITH US


I AM?!
SHE IS?

YAAAAAA AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAYYYYY!
WE WE'RE HAPPILY SURPRISED TO FIND THE LAST TEMPLE RESPONDED TO YOU.
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY LISIE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCESS REGIONS AS WELL
YOU'RE RIGHT GOOD IDEA.
SLAM!
I HAVE MY MOMENTS
I'M READY!
I'LL HELP CARRY MANA TOO!
ZIP
SETTIN' HER DOWN NOW. YOU'LL BE HEADIN' STRAIGHT NORTH.
QUICKLY NOW, LADIES
I CAN BE QUICK!
I'LL KEEP UP!
YOU FOUND A DROGUNE TEMPLE BEFORE?
YUP! IT'S WHERE WE FOUND YOU!
GASP!
REALLY?! TELL ME- TELL ME- TELL ME-!

IT WAS A LOT LIKE THIS DIVE- GOOD INTEL ON A DROGUNE TEMPLE GALAXANT HADN'T FOUND YET.
HUNTING DOWN DROGUNE ARTIFACTS IS RISKY BUSINESS NO MATTER WHAT, BUT ON HUMEHIME, IT'S ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS
BUT WE NEEDED A BIG SCORE, AND YOU DON'T GET MUCH BIGGER THAN THAT


CAW
CAW

WHAT HAVE WE GOT?
THIS PLACE IS DROGUNE-BUILT RIGHT? MAYBE IT'LL OPEN IF I ASK IT NICELY? HAHA!
LOOKS LIKE A BIOMETRIC SCANNER. LUCKY FOR US I KNOW A GUY WHO HAS ALL SORTS OF LOCK-PICKS
GIMMIE TWENTY MINUTES AND I'LL HAVE US IN THERE!
SLAP!
SLAP!

RUMBLE
DEET!

BMMMM

DMM...
YOU KNOW HOW I'M ALWAYS TELLING YOU TO KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF?
YEAH!

TOUCH EVERYTHING.

LOOK! A CONTROL PANEL MAYBE...?

OKAY UMM

WAKEY WAKEY!

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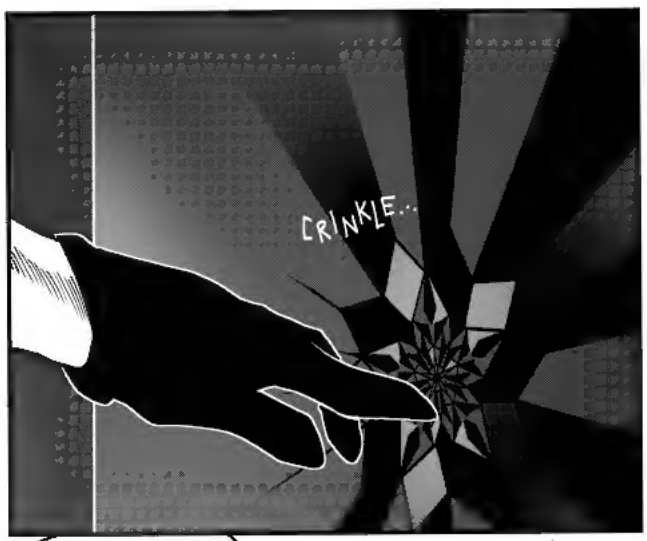
Fzzsht
POP
Fzzsht
KRAK
BWOOOOOOOO...
PISS.
THIS TECH IS OVER TWO-THOUSAND YEARS OLD.
IT'S A MIRACLE IT TURNED ON AT ALL.
SO YOU'RE SAYING I'M MIRACULOUS?
SOUNDS LIKE WE BLEW A FUSE. STILL- THIS PLACE BOOTED UP. MUST MEAN THERE'S SOME--
MANA-BATTERIES!
STARS ABOVE AND ROOTS BELOW!
HELL YES! JACKPOT!
LOOK AT THE PRECISION OF IT'S STRUCTURE!
THE POWER RETENTION HAS TO BE HIGHER THAN ANYTHING ON THE MARKET!
I DUNNO IF MOST ENGINES CAN EVEN HANDLE MANA THIS PURE.
-WE MIGHT HAVE TO GRIND IT DOWN TO MAKE IT SELLABLE!

SO? WE'LL MIX IN SOME DUST, RUN IT THROUGH A COMPRESOR, AND STILL PRODUCE HIGH-GRADE BATCHES OFF ONE OF THESE!
THE GOOD TIMES ARE FINALLY HERE!
WEIRD... THESE ALMOST LOOK FAMILIAR...
WYND! ENOUGH SIGHT-SEEING!
WE NEED TO GATHER UP AS MUCH AS WE CAN AND GET OUT OF HERE!
IT'S MY HERITAGE, DAMMIT! LET ME LOOK!
'SIDES- I THINK I FOUND A VAULT OR SOMETHING.
VAULT?
FOLKS TEND TO KEEP VERY NICE THINGS IN VAULTS!
YES! THEY MOST CERTAINLY DO!



KINDA SPARSE. JUST SOME OLD CLOTHES AND...

VMMMM

...A BOX. GUYS? HELLO?

IT'S ANOTHER ONE .

WHAT'RE THE ODDS?

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